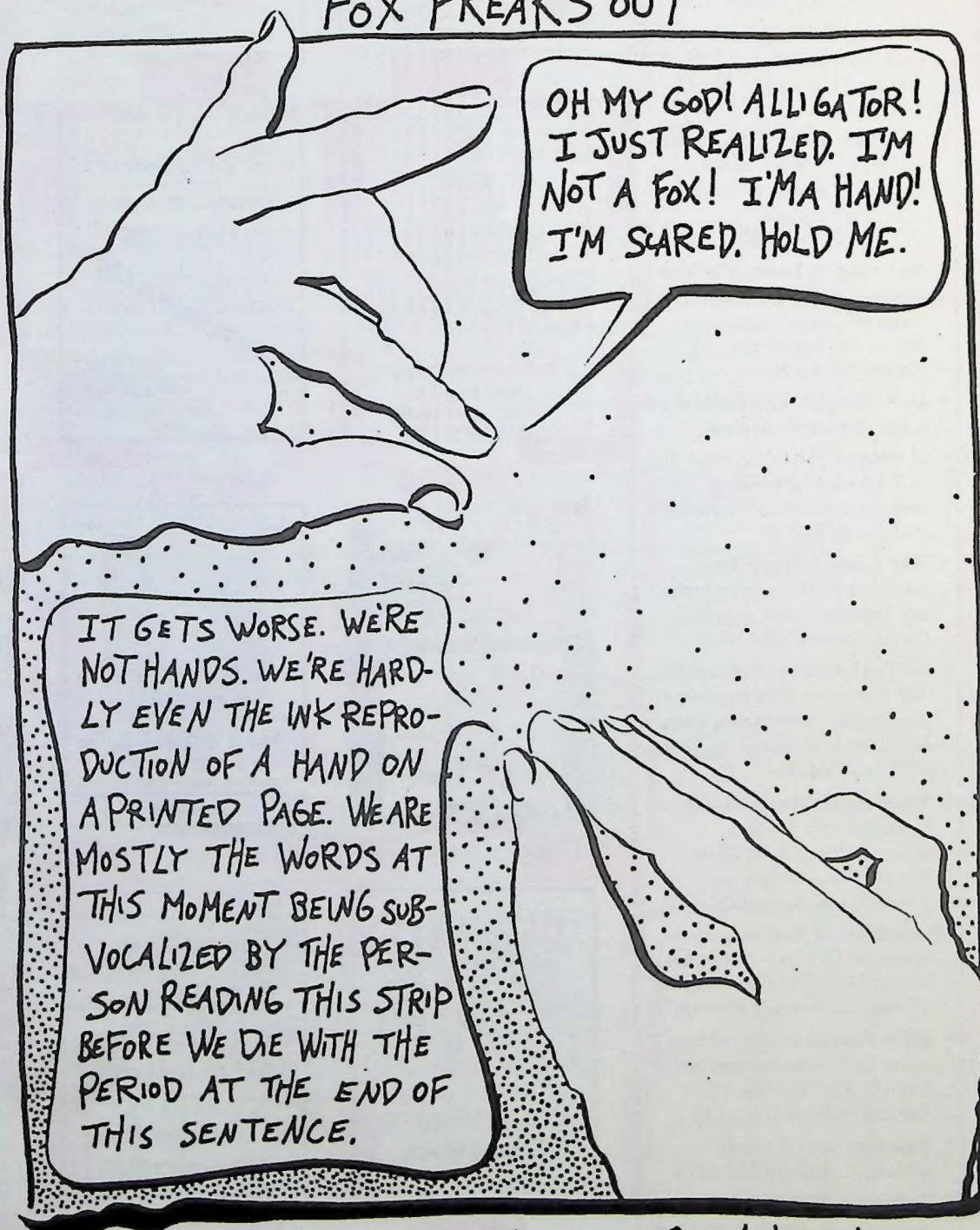


EPISODE #95  
September 9, 1993

# The Valley 66 COMIC

N ♦ E ♦ W ♦ S

FOX FREAKS OUT



OFF THE DEEP END ©1990 Andrew Lehman

New This Issue!  
L.A. Cucaracha

## ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS!!

STORIES:

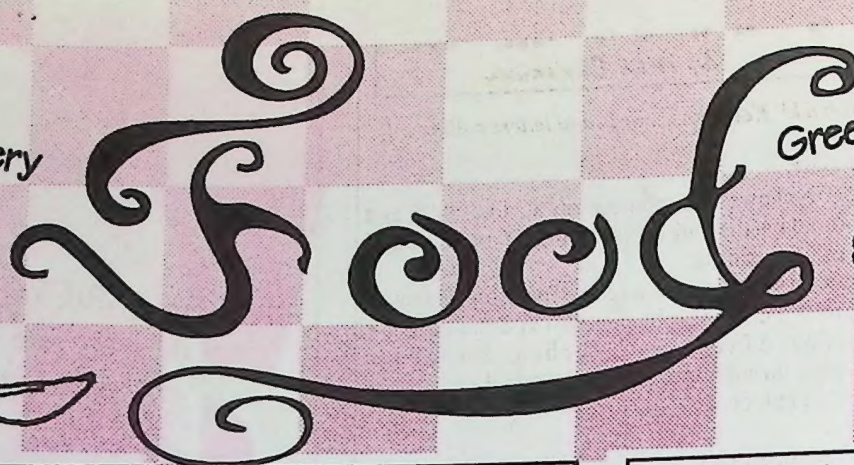
THE RIFLEMAN  
THE ROSSMEISTER  
SING AN AMERICAN TUNE  
...AND HEY -- BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!  
I SPACED IT OUT  
BEYOND POLITIX  
MURKY WATERS  
THE NEW ARMY

## INSIDE

FEATURES: THE FAR SIDE,  
DOONESBURY,  
CALVIN & HOBBS,  
VIEWS OF THE WORLD,  
JOE BOB BRIGGS, LEOLD,  
IZZY GESELL'S HUMOR ME,  
THIS MODERN WORLD,  
DREAM WORLD NEWS,  
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT,  
L.A. CUCARACHA  
LOCAL HEROES,  
EARTHWEEK







Chives Summer Squash Lettuce Celery

Green Beans Cucumbers

Zucchini Walnuts Grapes Watermelon

Chilis Sweet Corn Bananas Oranges

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Cherries Strawberries

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# PAGE THREE

by Mike Chrisman



(Answer Guy is back! Keep those cards and letters rolling in!)

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: When did TV shows start coming on at, like, 8:05 and 11:35? Back in the old days they all started at the top or bottom of the hour, none of this 35 business.

A: A few shows *do* still come on at 8:00. Then some come on at 8:01, some at 8:01:30, etc. The problem is the expansion of cable stations, and the gazillion different shows they have. Bottom line:

there's just way too many TV waves jumping through space, and if they all came on at exactly the same time, your television would explode.

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: You know how when you buy something from a catalogue or TV you always have to pay extra for shipping & handling? And it's usually like \$3.95? Is there any earthly reason they can't just include this in the total price?

A: Sure. The Shippers and Handlers have extremely strong unions, and part of their deal with people who sell stuff is these unions have to be recognized in the ad. It's a pride thing, kind of like the medieval guilds, or when everybody waves at the camera after there's a foul ball. If their names *don't* appear in the ad, they just sit on the merchandise, or take it home to their kids, who use it a few times, then break it.

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: The other day a car passed me on the interstate, and the driver was talking on his car phone and reading something off a bunch of papers he had in the same hand he was steering with. Isn't this sort of dangerous?

A: The only thing more dangerous than what you saw would be if the driver was also eating soup. Nationwide, 100% of motorists who drive, read, and eat soup die in fiery crashes. Take away the soup, and it's down to 76%, still miserable odds. Next time you're hurtling down the interstate and you see something like this, just give the other car a friendly nudge with your front bumper. That'll make any uncautious driver pay a little more attention, plus, it'll show him you really care about safety.

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: In an audio cassette box, that cardboard thing with lyrics on it is called a J-card. How come?

A: Needless to say, it has nothing to do with the shape of the card. Back in the forties, empty cassette boxes, with the cards still in them, were frequently used by blues performers to conceal their illicit marijuana cigarettes — or "Jays." Incidentally, this is where we get the term "blue-Jay." Also, when these addicts went outdoors, they were so disoriented that their behavior was referred to as "Jay-walking." Years later — and despite America's victory in the War on Drugs — unsuspecting citizens still call those folded cardboard sheets by a name that carries a stark reminder of our lawless past.

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: As you know, Father Guido Sarducci recently performed an exorcism of Fenway Park to get rid of "The Curse Of The Bambino." Do you think this will work? Will the Red Sox ever win the World Series?

A: Of course it'll work! The secret reason for the Pope's visit this summer was to start making Father Guido Sarducci a saint, on account of all his miracles. The Red Sox will clobber the Giants in five games in this year's World Series. Maybe four.

## The Valley Comic News

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Thanx & good luck to Jon, JJ, & Alex

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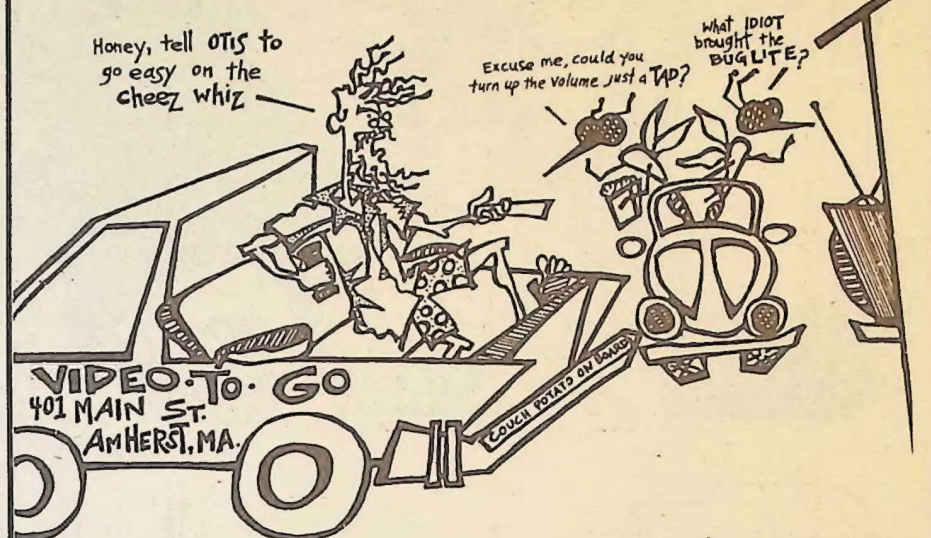
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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

## MORE SOCIAL SUGGESTIONS FROM VIDEO TO GO: PERSONAL DRIVE-IN

On a balmy eve; stick TV + VCR out d window, serve Popcorn w/cheez whiz, and observe from open vehicles w/Assorted Drive-in Nuts.....



More  
Good Stuff  
for Your  
Room.

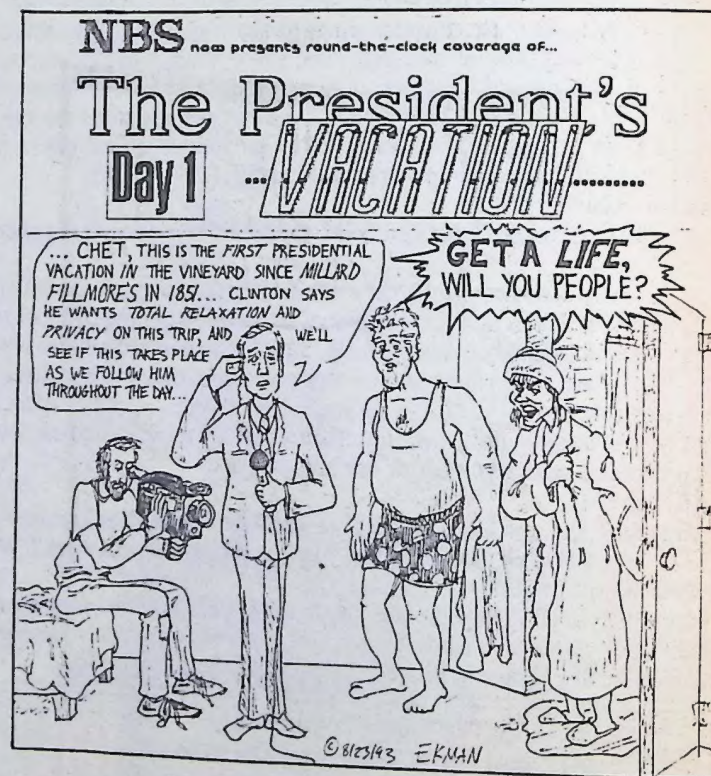
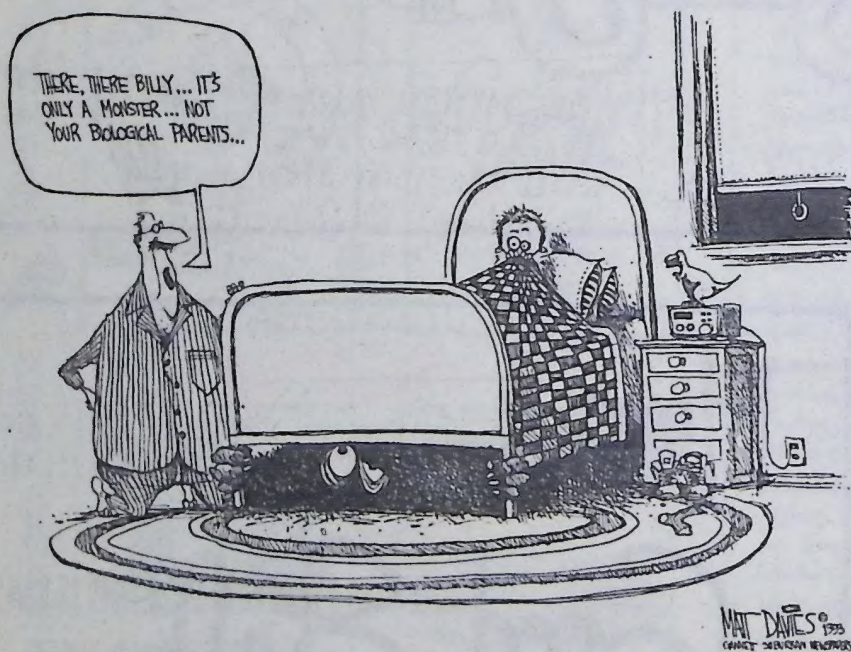
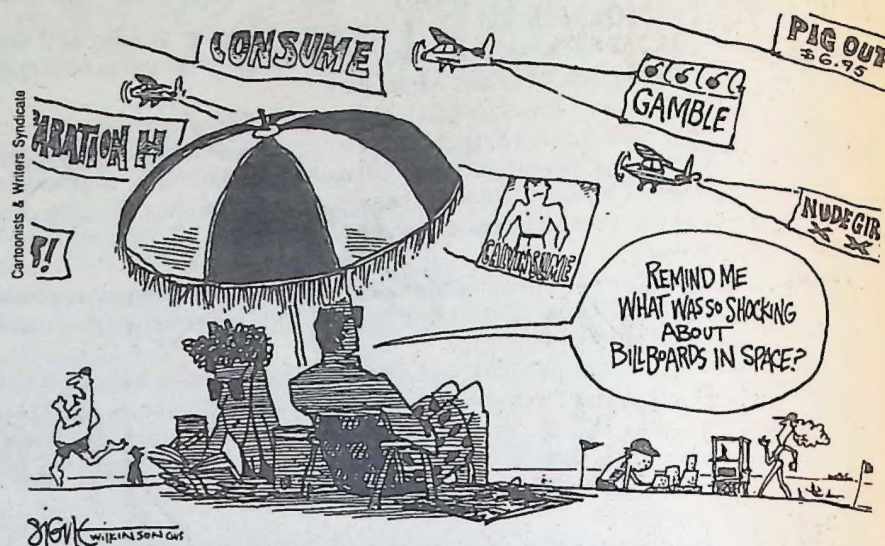
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# SING AN AMERICAN TUNE



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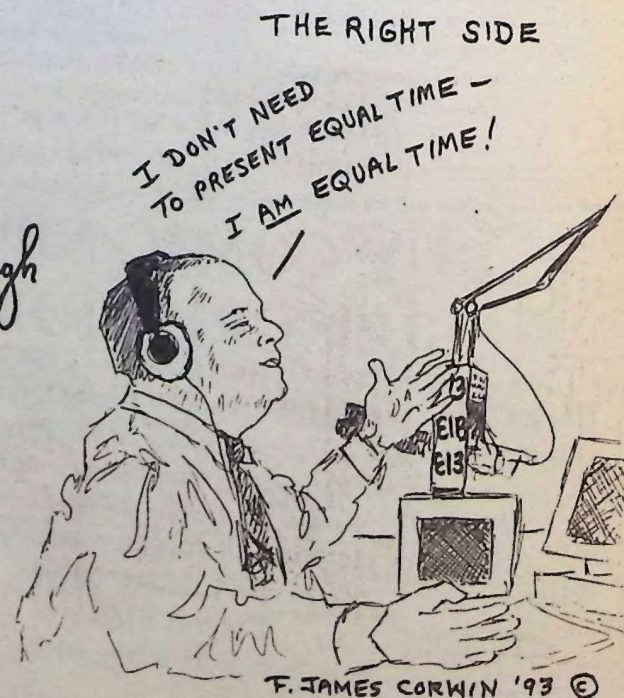
RUSH IS RIGHT! "DITTO"

E13

Rush Limbaugh

A MAN  
A LEGEND  
AWAY OF LIFE

LEARN IT.....  
LIVE IT.....  
LOVE IT.....



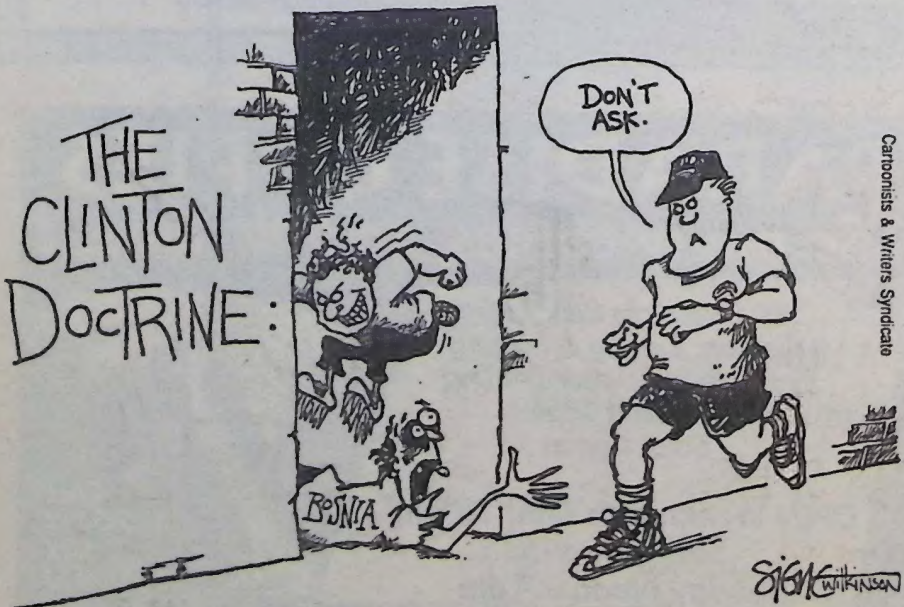
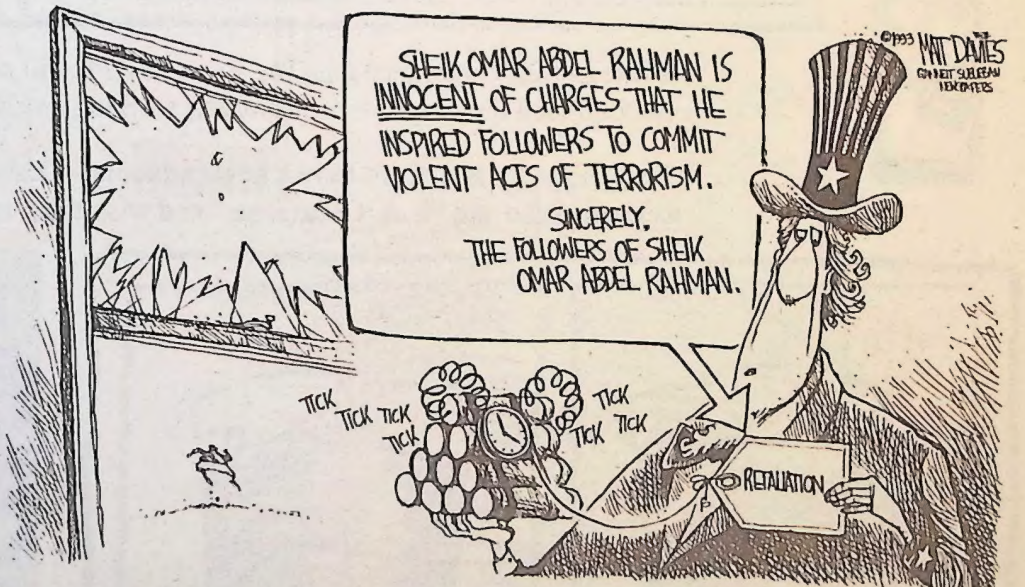
F. JAMES CORWIN '93 ©



## ...AND HEY -- BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!



# FEEDING SOMALIA





**WEAKLY WACIST NEWS**

Space visitor tells Clinton how to wreck U.S. economy!

**BILL FIRES CHELSEA'S NANNY!**

*'Pick your own lettuce' - ALIEN*

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*¡YO SOY CHILE BOY!*

**HOT MILD NADA**

We regretfully announce that The Brass & Fern will no longer be appearing in this space. The artist has discontinued the strip. He is, however, working on another one, which we hope we'll be able to run.

The good news is that we have a new cartoonist -- Lalo Alcaraz -- with a slightly different perspective. We welcome Lalo and "L.A. Cucaracha," and wish them tons 'o luck.

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YOU'RE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN I'VE EVER MET	MAY I PLEASE GET INTO YOUR PANTS NOW?	I LOVE YOU MORE THAN THE WORLD SERIES	I AM A PATHOLOGICAL LIAR	LET'S JUST BE FRIENDS	I HAVE GOTTEN INTO SOMEONE ELSE'S PANTS
YOU ARE MY SPIRITUAL TWIN	HOW ABOUT NOW?	I'LL CALL YOU SOON	I'LL CALL YOU WHEN I NEED SOMETHING	OUR FRIENDSHIP IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME	PLEASE INTRODUCE ME TO YOUR GIRLFRIENDS

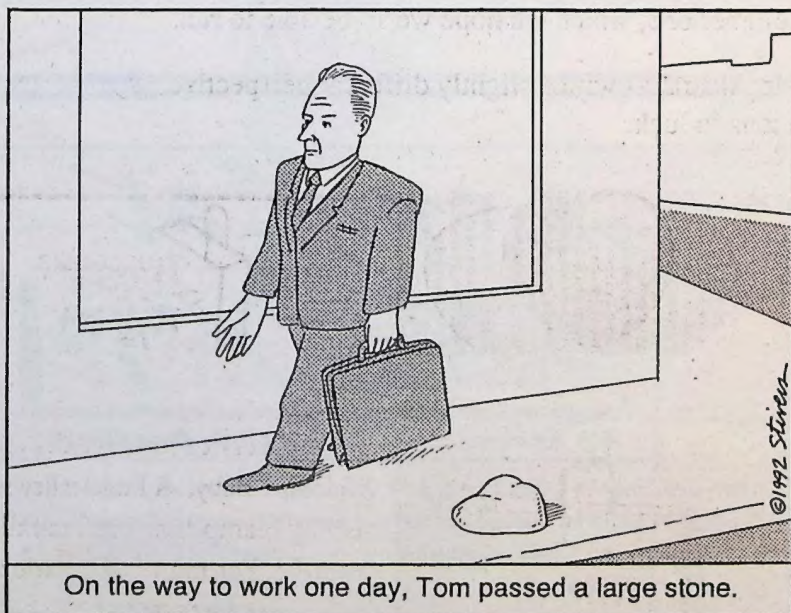
REMEMBER, SPEAKING TWO DIFFERENT LANGUAGES CAN ONLY SPELL DISASTER. LEARN GUY. TODAY. ©1992 JEFFREY BOND

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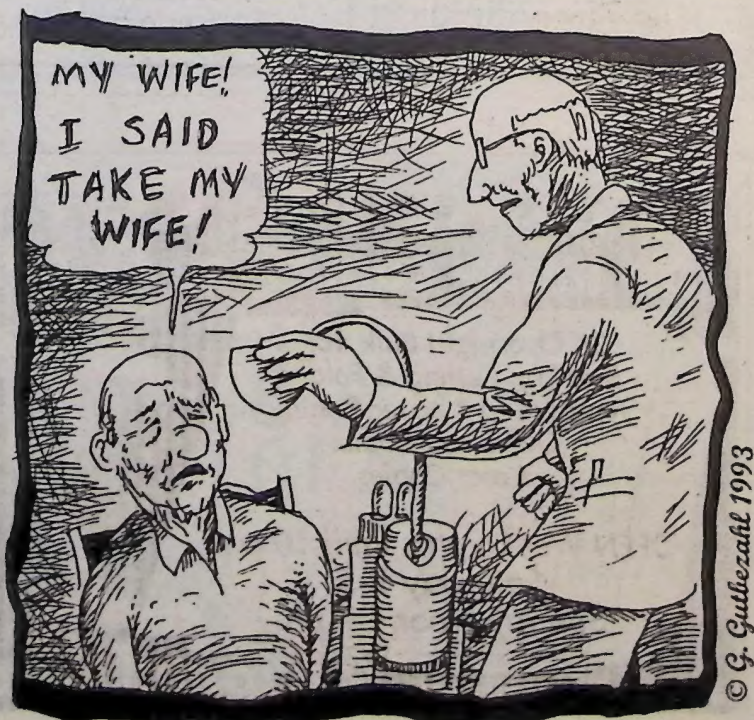


picasso's blues period

STIVERS



On the way to work one day, Tom passed a large stone.



HENNY YOUNGMAN MEETS DR. KEYORKIAN...

© G. Gutierrez 1993

ZEN DRIVERS SCHOOL



OFF THE DEEP END ©1991 Andrew Lehman

BERMAN by Jennifer Berman

FINALLY, A TRUCE WAS CALLED AT THE "NATURE VS. NURTURE" DEBATE....



Jennifer Berman ©1993

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# THIS MODERN WORLD BY TOM TOMORROW

## THIS MODERN WORLD

MAINSTREAM MEDIA PROFESSIONALS OFTEN DISMISS THEIR CRITICS AS IDEOLOGICALLY BIASED... AND IT'S TRUE THAT MEDIA CRITICS DO COME FROM BOTH THE LEFT...

...AND SO THERE'S CLEARLY AN OVER-RELIANCE ON ADMINISTRATION SOURCES...



IF MAINSTREAM NEWS PROGRAMS ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR CRITICS AT ALL, THEY USUALLY PRESENT BOTH OF THESE VIEWPOINTS TOGETHER IN ORDER TO PROVIDE "BALANCE"--

WE'D JUST LIKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT OUR SIDE OF THE ARGUMENT...

ANYONE WHO DIS-AGREES WITH US IS A PAWN OF SATAN AND MUST BE SILENCED!



--AND THE RIGHT...

EVERYONE IN THE MEDIA IS A LEFT-WING DEVIL-WORSHIPPING COMMUNIST DRUG FIEND! I HAVE LISTS! I HAVE PROOF!



--AS WELL AS TO SUBTLY EQUATE THE TWO...

WELL, GENTLEMEN, THANK YOU BOTH FOR PRESENTING YOUR--AH-- OPINIONS... HEH, HEH...

I GUESS WE IN THE NEWS MEDIA CAN'T PLEASE EVERYBODY... CHUCKLE...

COMING UP NEXT: WHAT HENRY KISSINGER THINKS!



## THIS MODERN WORLD

DURING THE EIGHTIES, AMERICANS WERE APPARENTLY WILLING TO BELIEVE ANYTHING... THAT REAGANOMICS MADE SENSE, FOR EXAMPLE...OR THAT A SPACE-BASED MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM WAS TRULY VIABLE...

YOU SEE--IT'LL BE LIKE A GREAT BIG UMBRELLA IN SPACE--KEEPING US ALL SAFE FROM HARM!

HEY--THAT'S TERRIFIC!

I FEEL MORE SECURE ALREADY!



THE REVELATION HAS BEEN MADE YEARS TOO LATE TO AROUSE THE OUTRAGE IT DESERVES, UNFORTUNATELY...

HEY HONEY! IT SAYS HERE THE MILITARY WAS LYING ABOUT STAR WARS ALL ALONG!

THAT'S INTERESTING. SO WHAT'S ON T.V. TONIGHT?



NOW THE N.Y. TIMES HAS DISCLOSED THAT IN 1984, CRUCIAL STAR WARS TESTS WERE BLATANTLY FAKED BY THE PENTAGON, IN ORDER TO DECEIVE THE SOVIET UNION INTO SPENDING BILLIONS THEY COULD ILL AFFORD--

--BY FIRST DECEIVING THE U.S. CONGRESS INTO SPENDING BILLIONS THEY COULD ILL AFFORD...



STILL, IT'S ASTONISHING TO CONSIDER THAT, AS A MATTER OF OFFICIAL POLICY, THE PENTAGON MAY HAVE BEEN LESS CONCERNED WITH THE EFFECTIVENESS OF STAR WARS THAN WITH ITS COST...

ALL RIGHT, MEN--GET OUT THERE AND SPEND THAT APPROPRIATION!

SHOP TILL YOU DROP--THAT'S AN ORDER!



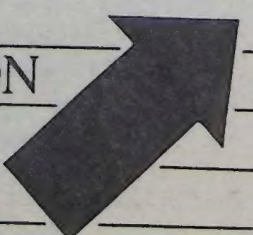
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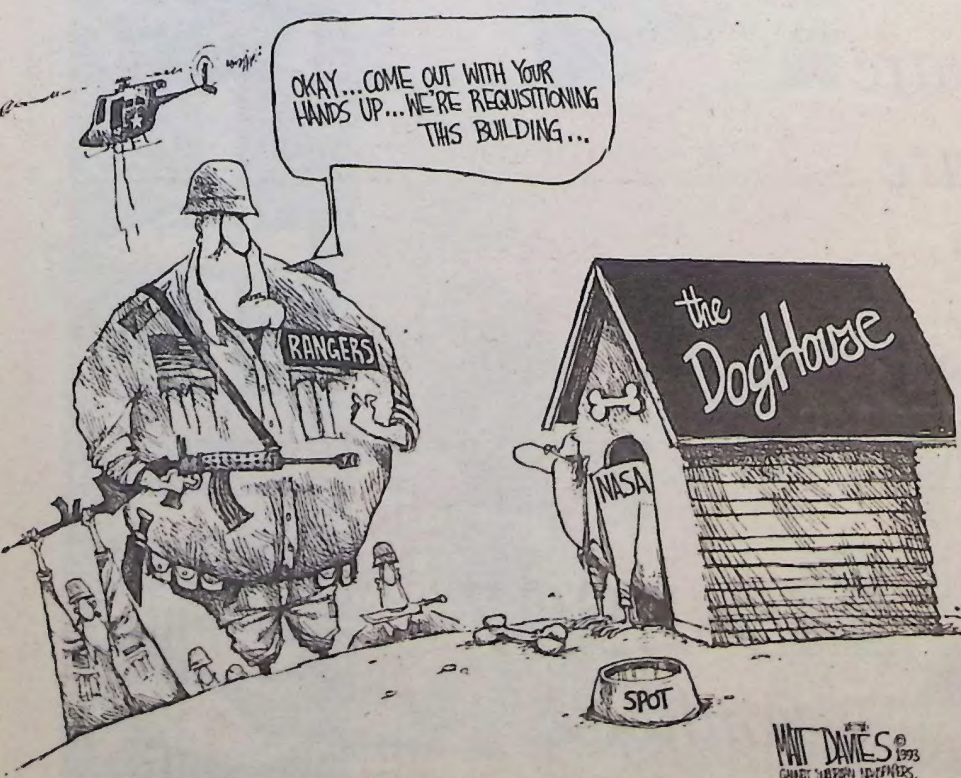
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ALBERT WENDELTHORP: NASA ENGINEER, TRIES TO TAKE HIS FAMILY ON VACATION...



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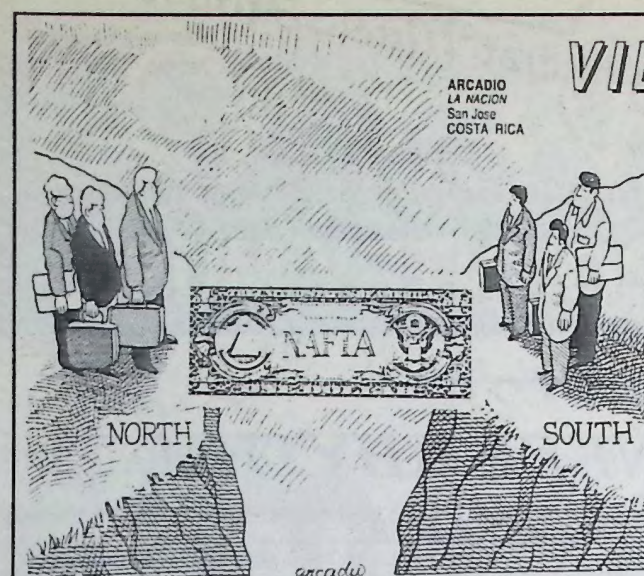
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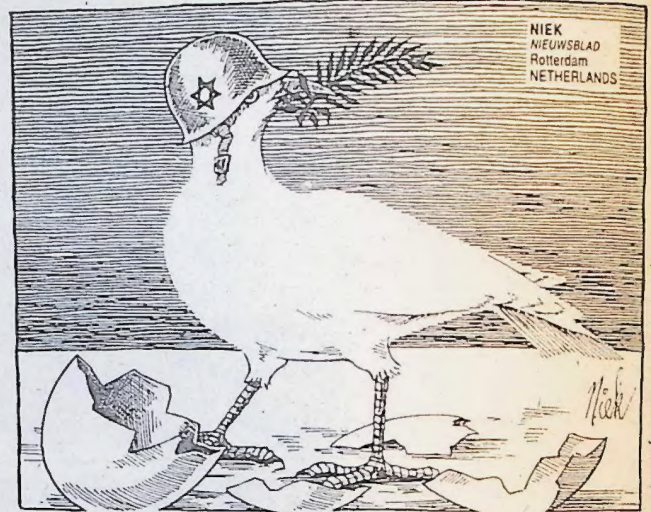
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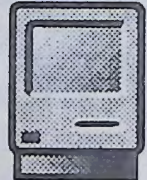


## VIEWS of the WORLD



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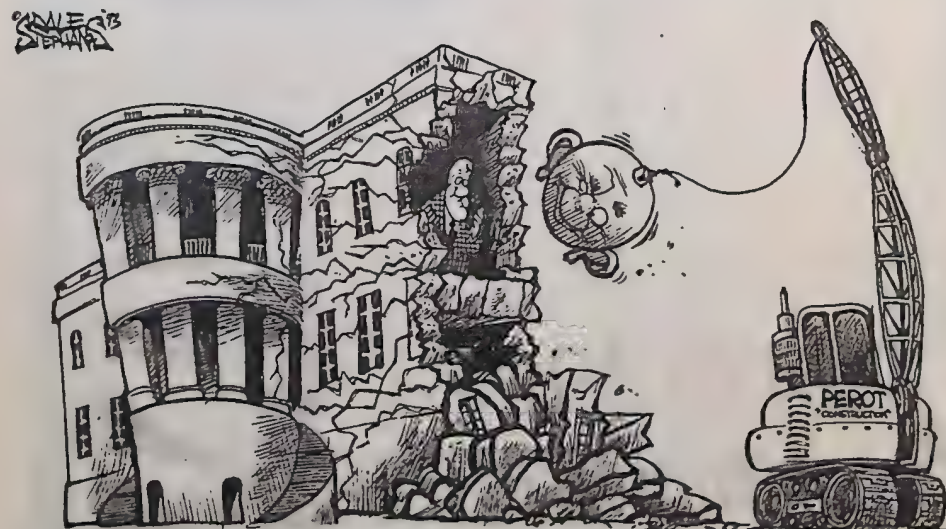
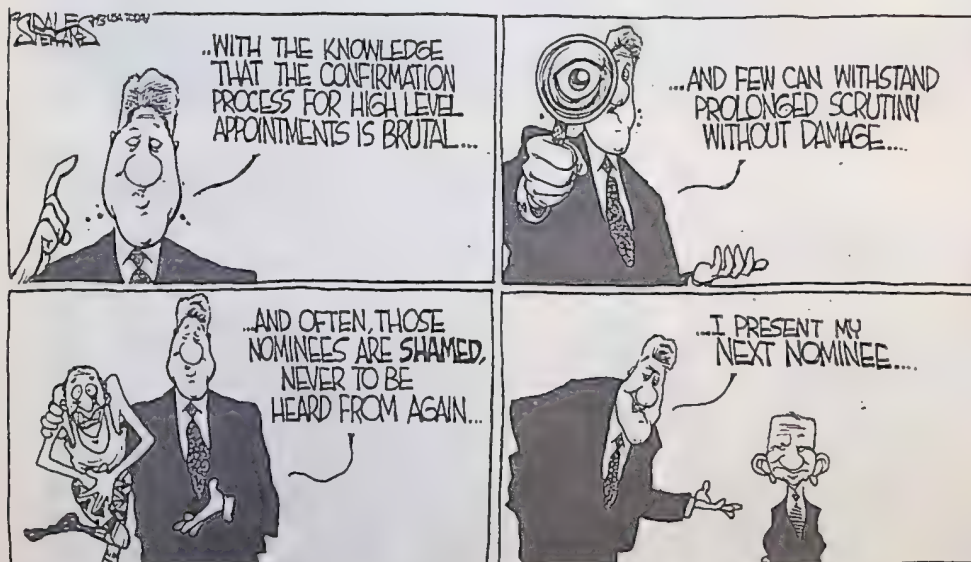
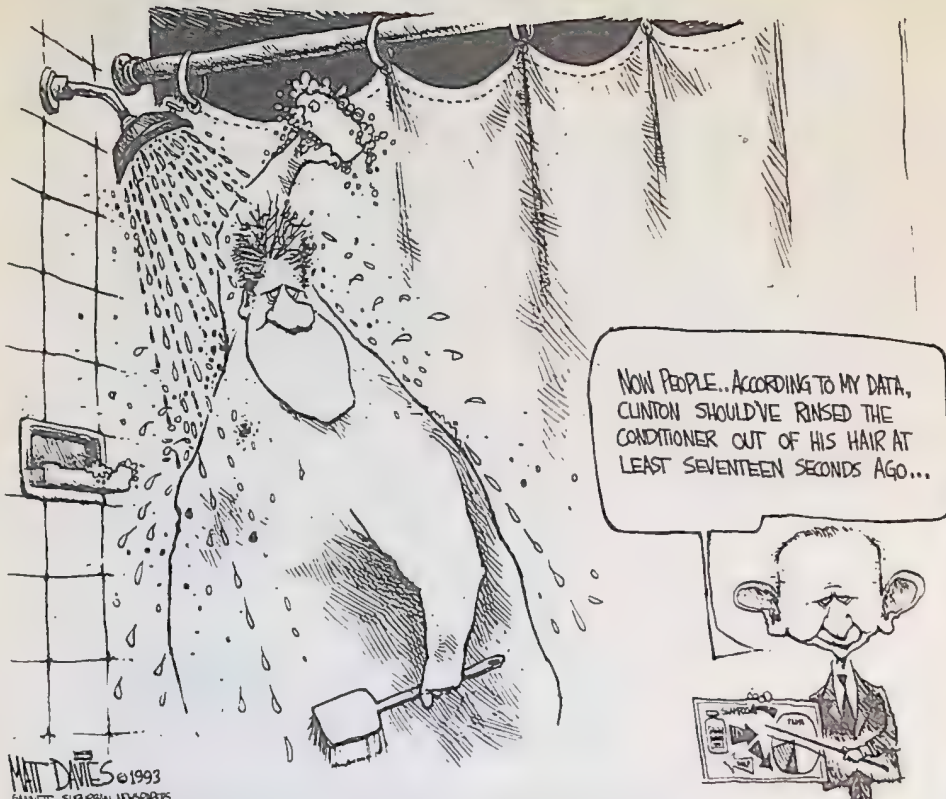


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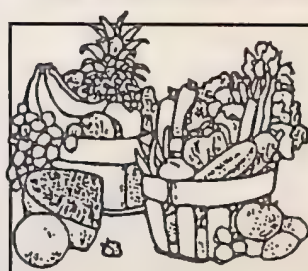
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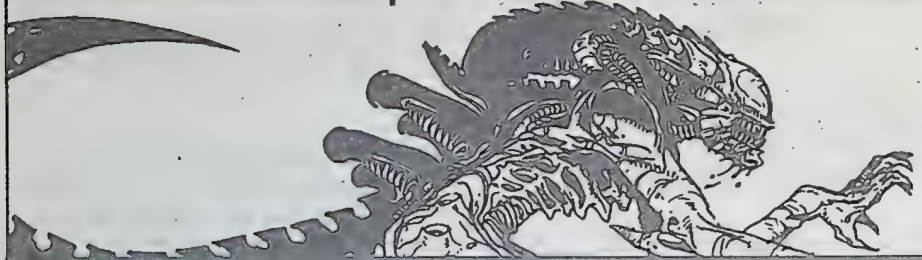
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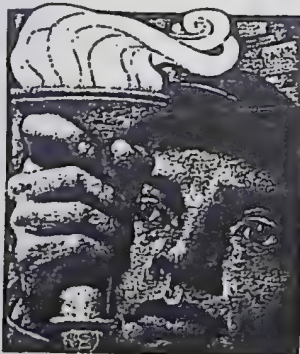
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# TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT by L.M. Boyd

People who know about stress say if you can relax your jaw, you won't be so keyed up.

Q. What was the first horror movie filmed in the United States?

A. *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, in 1908.

Baby giraffes have been seen to grow as much as half an inch an hour.

Dwight Eisenhower once observed, "Some people want champagne and caviar when they should have beer and hot dogs."

Check out that old fountain pen in the attic bureau. Collectors say the 1905 Parker Snake Pen is now worth about \$10,000.

Scholars with nothing better to do counted all the dirty words they believed to be common to the vocabularies of the ancient Romans, and came up with approximately 800. Then they did the same with modern English, and only listed about 20.

Q. I've read that some colonial battles were called because of rain. Why?

A. A wet flintlock rifle wouldn't fire.

Drawings in Egyptian tombs suggest it was women, not men, who were the first jugglers.

Voice-print experts who analyze taped responses for law-enforcement agencies say that a person's voice tends to rise when they're telling a lie.

How much could you get for your second-hand car? Greta Garbo's 1933 Model J Duesenberg sold a couple of years ago for a record \$2.5 million.

A python can go for well over a year without any food.

Q. Which of the United States is least likely to get an earthquake?

A. Texas and Florida are both at the bottom of the likelihood list.

What do you do with a pet bat when you go on vacation? An authority on bats replied, "Put it in the refrigerator. It will hibernate until you return."

Anthropologists say the fact that infants try to clap their hands when happy suggests that applause may be instinctive.

If you marry a woman whose sister is married to your best friend, do you become your best friend's brother-in-law? In the U.S. you do, although not in other countries.

Certain tribesmen in old Africa had a saying that translates: "The problem of the thief is not how to steal the chief's bugle, but where to blow it."

The continent with the world's second biggest rhinoceros population is North America, with its zoos and private herds.

John Stuart Mill once wrote: "The worth of the state, in the long run, is the worth of the individuals composing it."

Language experts say most Polynesians have no native swear words.

Years ago a popular sparkling water was dispensed in the German city of Nieder Selters, which is why we call that sort of water "seltzer."

Biologists state a skunk's spray is unsurpassed for clearing unwanted insects out of your garden.

Every second two Barbie Dolls are sold.

Every skilled kitchen mechanic knows the waffles come out lighter if a little club soda is mixed into the batter with the milk.

Teddy Roosevelt took pride in his do-it-now approach to matters. For those thoughtful souls less inclined to act immediately, he coined the words "pussyfooting" and "mollycoddling."

Whistler painted his mother because his model didn't show up that day.

Q. Why did William Faulkner refuse to accept a dinner invitation to the White House?

A. "Too far to go to eat with strangers," he said.

In 1934, an annual fee of \$1 paid to the first American Youth Hostel at Northfield, Mass., entitled you to free lodging at any hostel in the United States or Europe.

It was Goethe who wrote: "What you can do or think you can, begin it -- boldness has genius, power, and magic in it."



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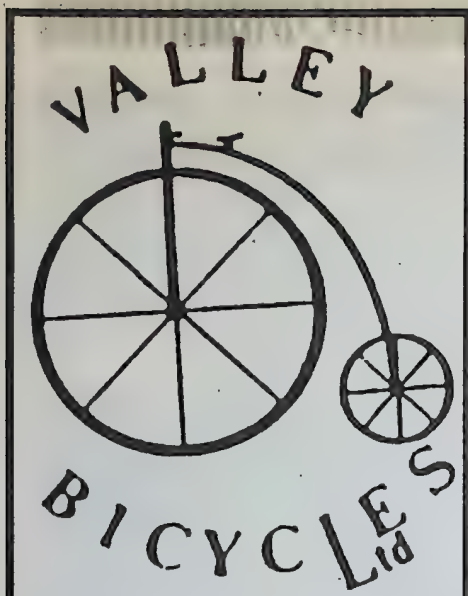


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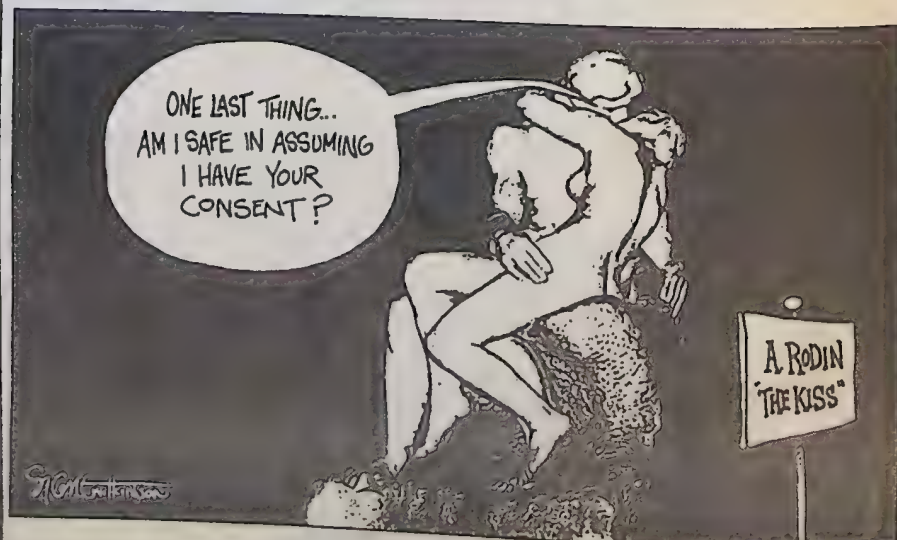
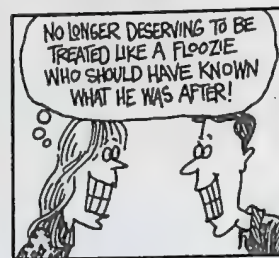
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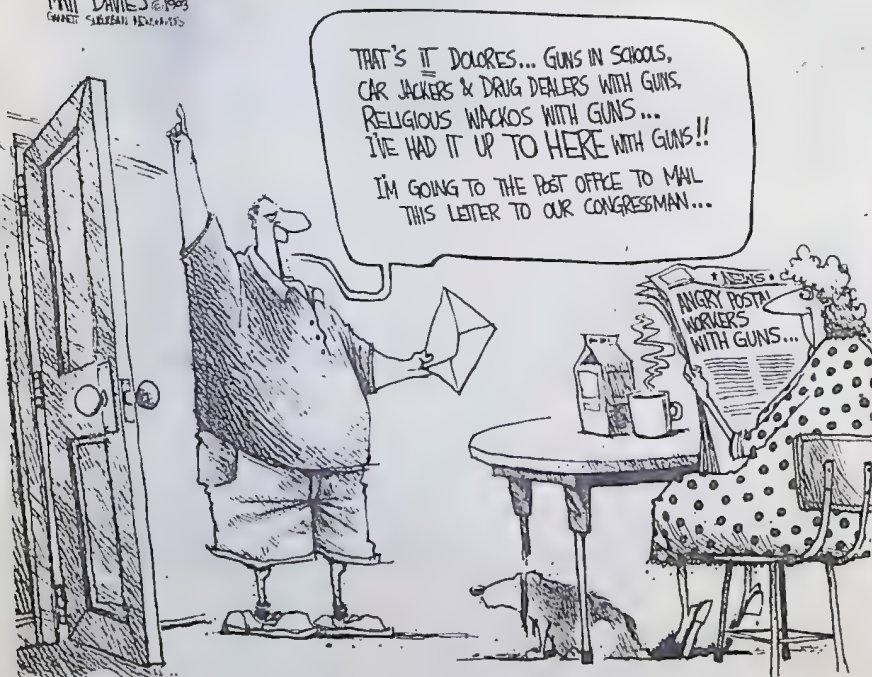




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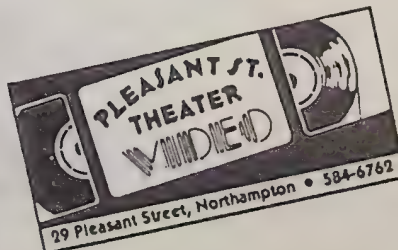
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# Live Shows in 95



**THU**  
NINE

Vertex: Selectrocution Charlemont Inn: open mic Bay State Hotel: Songwriters' Showcase, w/ host Johnny Memphis — Chandler Travis, Amy Fairchild Band, L-Dopa unplugged Seven O's: country karaoke North Star: Latin Night, w/ DJ Alberto Pearl Street: Shockra, God Street Wine, Inclined, plus dancing, w/ DJ Dennis R. Dave's Other Place: Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights

**FRI**  
TEN

Hotel Northampton: Tom Savoy Pearl Street: The Bombastics Iron Horse: Tony Vacca & Tim Moran, featuring Joe Sallins Green River Cafe: Louise Taylor, Wendy Beckerman Dave's Other Place: Bob Ferrier Charlemont Inn: Mark Nomad Blues Band 7 O's: Yankee Rhythm North Star: Andrei Ryabov jazz guitar, plus dance party w/ DJ Betsey Bay State Hotel: New Radiant Storm King, w/ special guests

**SAT**  
ELEVEN

Bay State Hotel: Blood Oranges, Kevin Salem Band, Angry Johnny (solo) 7 O's: Yankee Rhythm Vertex: Selectrocution Green River Cafe: Ron Freshley Jazz Quartet Hotel Northampton: Tom Savoy, Dave Brunelle Dave's Other Place: Greg Abate Iron Horse: Mose Allison Pearl Street: Son Seals, Wildcat O'Halloran, plus dancing, w/ DJ Pete D. North Star: Dance Party Nite, w/ DJ Mike Kusek Black Sheep Cafe: Zen Cats Montague Book Mill: John Sheldon & Bluestreak

**SUN**  
TWELVE

Seven O's: open mic Green River Cafe: Lesley Smith/Swampgirl, & friends Bay State Hotel: Royal Trux, w/ special guest stars North Star: Russell Halac, folk, plus Girlz Night Out w/ DJ Betsey Vertex: Sam Black Church Iron Horse: Steve Earle Amherst College: Ani DiFranco

**MON**  
THIRTEEN

Bay State Hotel: Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights North Star: country/western dance nite (beg. 2-step + Homo Hop)

**TUE**  
FOURTEEN

Iron Horse: Queen Ida & Her Bontemps Zydeco Band North Star: Boyz Night Out w/ DJ Mike

**WED**  
FIFTEEN

Iron Horse: The Harper Brothers Pearl Street: Gay Night — dancing w/ DJ Dennis R. Bay State Hotel: Hair Volume, Curious Ritual, Sweet Spot Vertex: Gay Night North Star: Riverfront Jump Dance Band — swing dance





Ray Mason, at The Bay State

Tobey photo



**THU**  
SIXTEEN

**Vertex:** Selectrocution **North Star:** Latin Night w/ DJ Alberto **Charlemont Inn:** open mic **Bay State Hotel:** Supreme Dicks, Azalea Snail, The Dots **Dave's Other Place:** Bass In Your Face, featuring Joe Sallins **Seven O's:** country karaoke **Iron Horse:** Heidi Berry & Red House Painters **Pearl Street:** Chucklehead **UMass Fine Arts Center:** Jhaveri Sisters Manipuri Dance Group & Nrityashree Indian Dance

**FRI**  
SEVENTEEN

**Bay State Hotel:** The Unband, Mother Holly, Grind **Green River Cafe:** Orrin Star **Iron Horse:** Quetzal **Hotel Northampton:** Tom Savoy **Vertex:** Pain Killer **Dave's Other Place:** Cafe Society **North Star:** Carl Rausch jazz band **7 O's:** Flipside **Pearl Street:** The Itals, The Equalites **Montague Book Mill:** Dana Kurtz **Amherst College:** Pat Dinizio **Charlemont Inn:** John Sheldon & Bluestreak

**SAT**  
EIGHTEEN

**Dave's Other Place:** Charles Langford **Bay State Hotel:** Ray Mason Band, The Scud Mountain Boys, Cheri Knight **Iron Horse:** Chris Smither **Green River Cafe:** Yagottawanna! **Seven O's:** Flipside **Vertex:** Selectrocution **North Star:** Andrei Ryabov, jazz, plus Dance Party Nite **Hotel Northampton:** Hal Benoit, Dave Brunelle **Charlemont Inn:** Uproot **UMass New World Theater:** Chicano Secret Service "Do The Riot Thing" **Montague Book Mill:** The Diggers, plus book reception for author Barbara Yngvesson

**SUN**  
NINETEEN

**Seven O's:** Open mic **Iron Horse:** Mouth Music **Vertex:** Mind Bomb, Dandelion **Montague Book Mill:** Poetry night at the Mill **North Star:** tape release party — Linee Peroncel & Co. **Green River Cafe:** Joe Belmont & Jim Henry

**MON**  
TWENTY

**North Star:** Country/Western Nite w/ Cumba & Candee **Bay State Hotel:** Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights **Iron Horse:** Mojo Nixon

**TUE**  
TWENTYONE

**North Star:** Boyz Night Out w/ DJ Mike **Iron Horse:** The Drovers **Bay State Hotel:** Cheticamp, The Figs

**WED**  
TWENTYTWO

**Bay State Hotel:** Rock 'n' Roll Bargain Nite — Dish, two other great bands **Pearl Street:** Gay Night w/ DJ Dennis R. **North Star:** Swing dancing w/ DJ Jim McD **Vertex:** Gay Night, w/ DJ Betsey



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## EARTHWEEK: A DIARY OF THE PLANET

### Chernobyl Troubles

The Ukrainian newspaper *Kievskiy Vedomosti* reported that background radiation levels have risen from 19 to 24 curies in the Dnieper River near the Chernobyl nuclear plant, site of a 1986 radioactive explosion and fire. Recent heavy rains caused flooding over a widespread area; apparently the flooding leached strontium-90 from the soil. The increased levels pose no immediate danger to people in the area.

### Deadly Storms

Tropical storm Tasha whipped across the Philippines, forcing 20,000 people to flee. On Luzon, heavy rain caused steaming rivers of mud and rock to flow down Mt. Pinatubo. Terrified residents of Pasay City were forced to climb to rooftops to keep from drowning.

Hurricane Fernanda moved away from Hawaii after causing some heavy wave damage. Thousands of surfers flocked to the beaches to take advantage of 30-foot breakers.

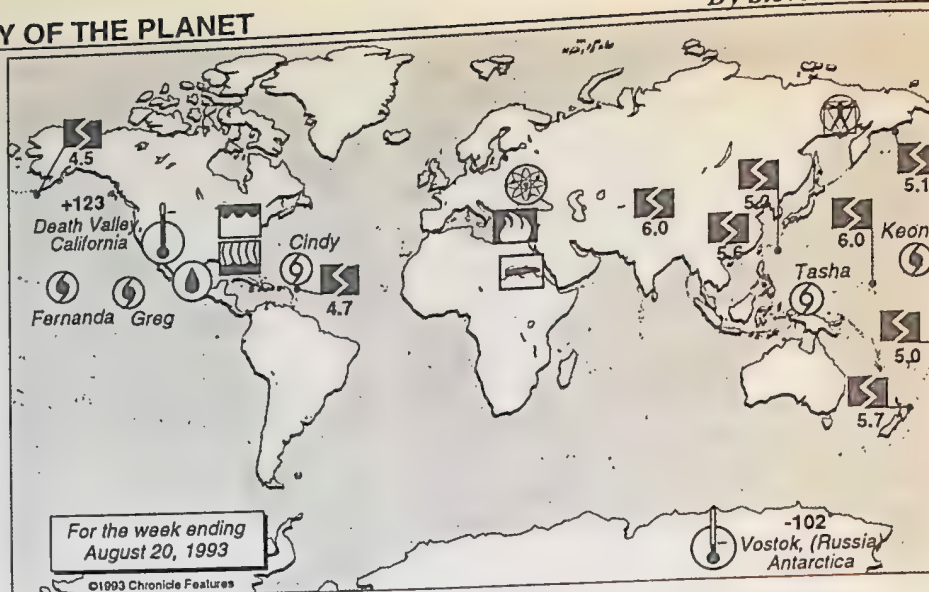
One thousand military and civilian personnel were evacuated from the Pacific atoll of Johnson Island as Hurricane Keoni passed by the island, but caused no damage.

After killing two people and leaving thousands homeless in the Lesser Antilles, tropical storm Cindy dissipated over the Caribbean island of Hispaniola.

Hurricane Greg churned harmlessly in the Pacific, moving away from the west coast of Mexico.

### European Fires

Fires burned across thousands of acres of pine forest in Greece. Police blamed arsonists for blazes burning on an island north of Athens, and the northern island of Thásos. In western Sicily, four forest rangers were killed by a fire burning 30 miles from the Italian city of Catania.



### Toxic Sea

Toxic fertilizers and sewage flowing to the Gulf of Mexico from the flooded Mississippi River may double the size of an existing "dead zone" where fish cannot live because of algal blooms that deplete oxygen and block sunlight. Scientists fear the "dead zone" may soon expand to 6,000 square miles because of the massive flooding.

### Spreading Locusts

Plagues of locusts are spreading through Africa, Southwest Asia, and the Middle East, and threaten some countries with famine, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization. Locust swarms have been reported in Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Chad, Mali, Niger, and Mauritania. The U.N. organization has asked other countries to assist in eradicating the plagues.

### Dangerous Diseases

Bubonic plague, cholera, and diphtheria have reappeared in the former Soviet Union because of the breakdown of the medical care system and a declining standard of living. One case of plague was discovered in Kazakhstan, and 50 soldiers in Siberia are the latest victims of the diphtheria outbreak. More than 4,000 diphtheria cases have been reported across Russia.

### Earthquakes

Tall buildings swayed in Taipei as a magnitude 5.3 earthquake struck northern Taiwan Wednesday. The tremor was centered in the sea 24 miles off the east coast of the island of I-lan.

Earth movements were also recorded south of the Mariana Islands, in Tonga, New Zealand, the Kamchatka Peninsula, the Aleutian Islands, Yunnan province in China, Tajikistan, and Puerto Rico.

### American Floods

Up to a foot of rain fell in parts of southern Indiana, forcing the evacuation of several communities as a band of thunderstorms rumbled across America's Midwest. A man was killed by lightning in Chicago, and many parts of Iowa were without electricity for three days. More rain is predicted as a flow of moist air sweeps from the south into the Midwest.

### Holy Embargo

Argentina has banned the importation of holy water from the Mexican town of Querétaro because of possible cholera contamination. The Argentine news agency Telam said the crackdown was ordered because bacteria that thrive in untreated water might be dangerous.

Additional Sources: U.S. Climate Analysis Center, U.S. Earthquake Information Center, and the Joint Typhoon Warning Center.

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## Summer Floods

 More than a million Chinese joined in the effort to stop floodwaters from spreading further across Jiangsu province. The official Xinhua news agency reported that more than 2,600 floodgates were closed to keep the water from inundating large tracts of farmland and homes.

Several weeks of torrential rains in northwestern Ethiopia and Sudan have caused rivers and streams, including the Blue Nile, to overflow. Six people were killed by the flash floods, and hydroelectric power from the Abay dam in Ethiopia was shut down for the first time since the facility was built 29 years ago.


River traffic on the entire Mississippi River resumed for the first time in several weeks as the waters subsided to safe levels. It was the end of the longest shutdown since shipping began there during the 19th century.

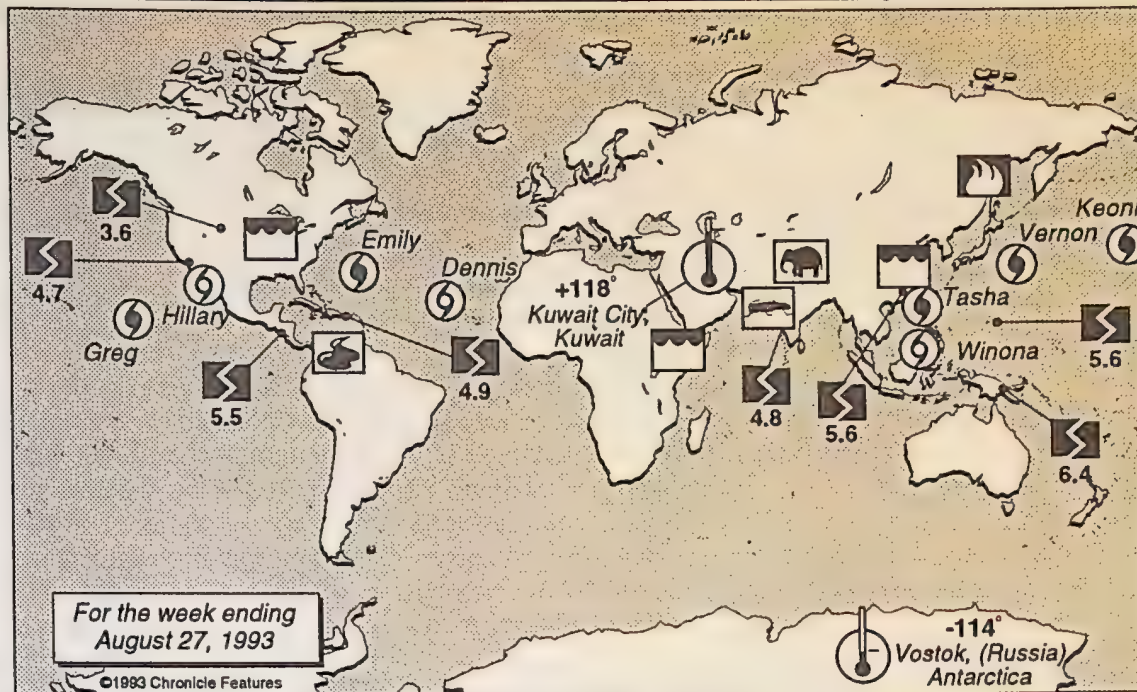
## Tropical Storms

 Typhoon Tasha brought Hong Kong, Macao, and parts of China's Guangdong province to a standstill after earlier killing five people during a rampage across the Philippines. Tropical storm Hillary triggered flash floods across Baja California.


Atlantic Seaboard residents watched cautiously as hurricane Emily formed south of Bermuda late in the week. Other tropical weather features developed across the Pacific and in the mid-Atlantic.

## Rebel Spill

 A huge oil spill triggered by a rebel attack on a pipeline spread into Colombia's largest river, the Magdalena. The 30-mile-long slick fouled drinking water for several towns. The National Liberation Army opposes foreign involvement in Colombia's oil industry, and has targeted other oil pipelines for bombing in the past.




## Earthquakes

 At least 90 people were injured and 2,000 homes wrecked by a sharp earthquake in the southern Chinese province of Yunnan. In Papua New Guinea, landslides were reported across the sparsely populated Western Highlands as a result of a major earthquake which also badly damaged some buildings in the town of Tari.


An aftershock of last year's powerful Landers earthquake knocked goods off store shelves as it rattled a wide area of Southern California. Earth movements were also felt in Bombay, Guam, the Dominican Republic, along Nicaragua's west coast, and in northwestern Wyoming.

## Water Fire

 Coastal waters near the Russian port of Vladivostok burst into flames, sending a cloud of black smoke across


the Pacific coastal city's main population centers. Itar-Tass reported that the fire may have occurred after a trawler illegally ditched oil into Tikhaya Bay. Local residents speculated that the eerie blaze may have been caused by a film of fuel which leaked from the nearby Russian Pacific Fleet base.

## Invasion

 India's breadbasket states of Haryana and Punjab are threatened by an invasion of desert locusts since some of the insect's natural enemies have disappeared during recent years. New Delhi environmentalist Ashish Kothari believes that the swarms have made it from the northern African deserts and Persian Gulf into western India because some species of birds which feed on them are no longer to be found in the region. Military aircraft are spraying tons of pesticides near the country's richest farmlands in an attempt to kill millions of the locusts before they

hatch from cocoons. This effort may, however, inflict further damage to the local ecological balance.

## Elephant Bandits

 Villagers in Nepal lit fires and torches and set off firecrackers to drive away herds of elephants that had terrorized the area during a day of wild rampages. Seven of the pachyderms pulled down one man's house and ate 15,000 rupees, about \$300, in cash he had kept in a rice bag. About 2,000 of the rupees, \$40, were later found in elephant dung in a nearby agricultural center, and taken to a local police station. Elephants also demolished several other houses, eating up grain, and throwing around pots and pans. Banana, coconut, and other crops were damaged during the raids.

*Additional Sources: U.S. National Hurricane Center at Miami, Hong Kong Royal Observatory, U.S. Climate Analysis Center, U.S. Earthquake Information Center, and the World Meteorological Organization.*



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# JOE BOB BRIGGS

About ten years ago this big Home School Movement got started.

I know all about it. My sister does it. She doesn't send her kid to regular school. She spends all day with him, "home-schooling" him. Yes, "home-school" is a verb. You would have to meet my sister.

The idea is that the public schools aren't worth diddly squat, so, hell, *I'll just do it myself.*

Of course, people who use "home-school" as a verb probably aren't the best people to be teaching grammar to their own children, but we won't go into that right now. (And if my sister is reading this, *only kidding.*)

But let's take a look at what's going on here.

First of all, what kind of kid would *want* to stay home all day in the first place? If I'd been forced to stay home till I was 18 years old, being ordered around by my mom all day, sitting at the kitchen table being "home-schooled," I probably would have taken a shotgun down to McDonald's and become world-famous by the time I was 12.

I couldn't wait to get *out* of the house. By the time I was 10 I was writing letters to the Air Force Academy, asking them if they accepted fifth-graders. I knew kids who got sent away to military school as punishment. I *wanted* to get sent away to military school.

Don't get me wrong. My house was very happy. It was just *boring*. I was a kid. I wanted out.

But even if we assume that some kids do *not* want out, I've gotta wonder what would have happened if my mother taught me everything I knew from the time I was six to the time I was 18.

Fortunately for me, my mom is an award-winning elementary school teacher. In fact, she *did* teach me to read, and everything else I learned up *until* I was six. But if this had gone on much past seventh grade, I would have either ended up as a homeless person, or, even worse, an insurance agent. Because my mom does not have the *temperament* to teach junior high and high school. She was *born* to be an elementary school teacher. Every-

one in the state agrees on this. She's a "sweet" person. You want a "sweet" person teaching first-graders. You do not want a "sweet" person teaching international politics. You know what I mean?

So how do they get around this problem in the Home Schools?

Mainly they do it by ordering these videos and workbooks where other home-school teachers tell you *how* to teach the subjects you don't know diddly about. You can even *learn to play the violin* by watching two years of home-school videotapes. (I'm not making this up.)

Of course, this brings up the question: If you're gonna let somebody else's video teach your kid, then what are you doing there in the first place?

And if you're *not* gonna let the video do the teaching — if you're gonna become a Rhodes Scholar yourself, and be completely schooled in every single academic subject — then doesn't all that training seem *wasted* when it's just used for *one child*? Your child?

Of course, I guess a bunch of

home-school teachers could get together, and the one that was good at math could teach math, and the one that was good at science could teach science, and you could drive the kids from home to home. Or maybe all the teachers could go to the same building, and the home-school kids could go to that building, and then the very best of home-school knowledge could all be combined in one place.

Oh, yeah, I guess we can't do that.

That would be called a "school," wouldn't it?

Sorry.

Y'all explain this to me one more time. I obviously don't get it.

. . .

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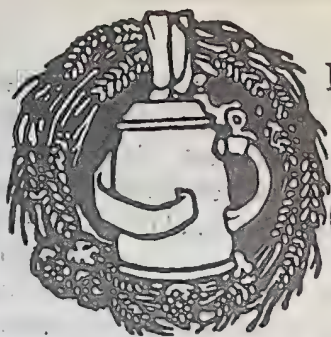
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572-0530

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BROWN DOG ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

# Octoberfest

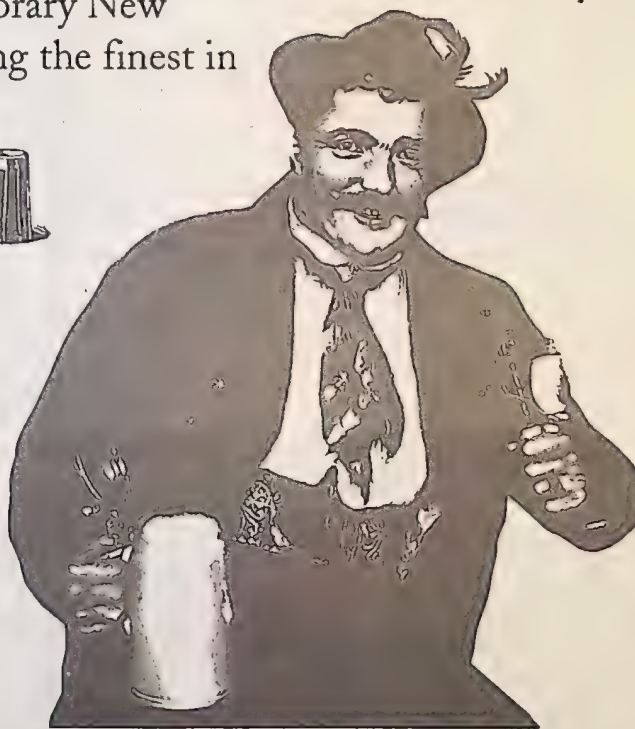
September 24th, 25th & 26th  
at The Northampton Quality Hotel



Experience a traditional Old World style event within a contemporary New England setting. Featuring the finest in microbrewed beers, great German imports and hearty foods. Live music provided by local Oompah & Polka bands guaranteed to lift your hearts (and glasses) and keep your feet moving.

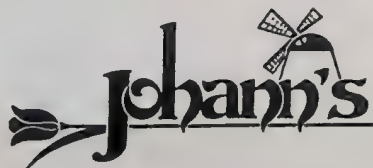


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Photo: Jennifer Burdick

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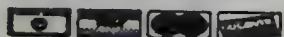
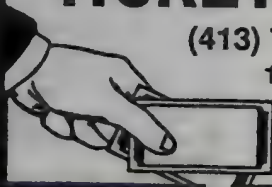
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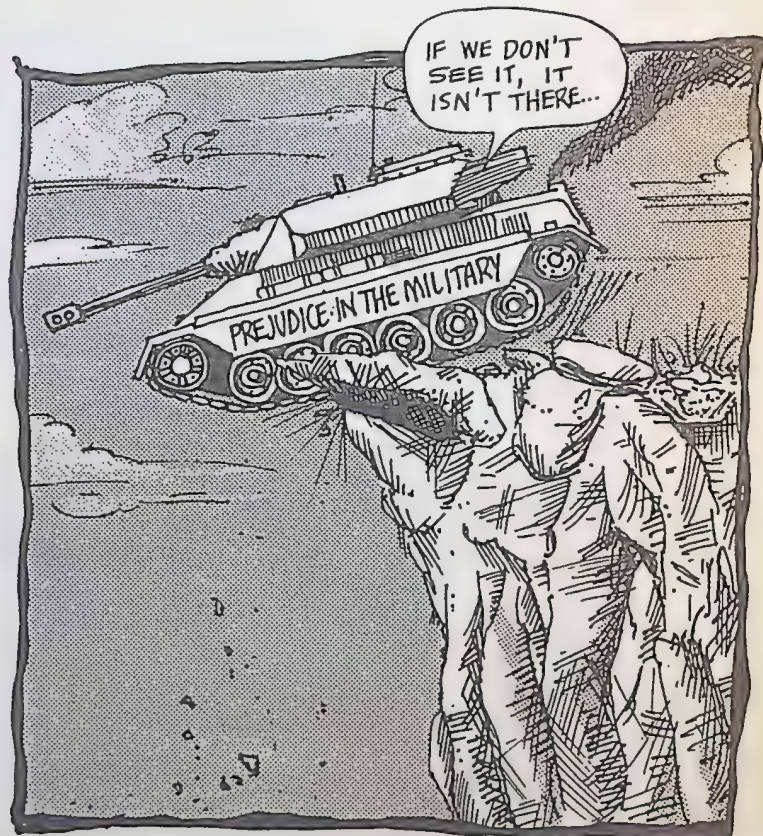


A Private Ticket Service

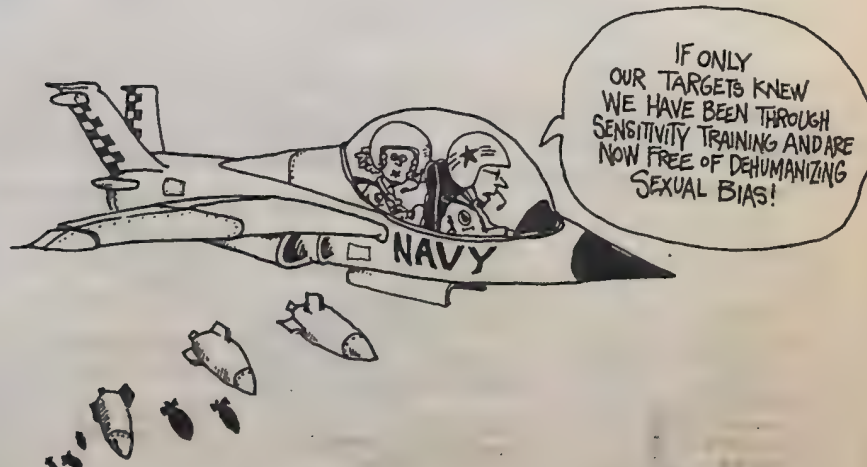
## THE NEW ARMY



Cartoonists & Writers Syndicate



© G. Gutberahl 1993



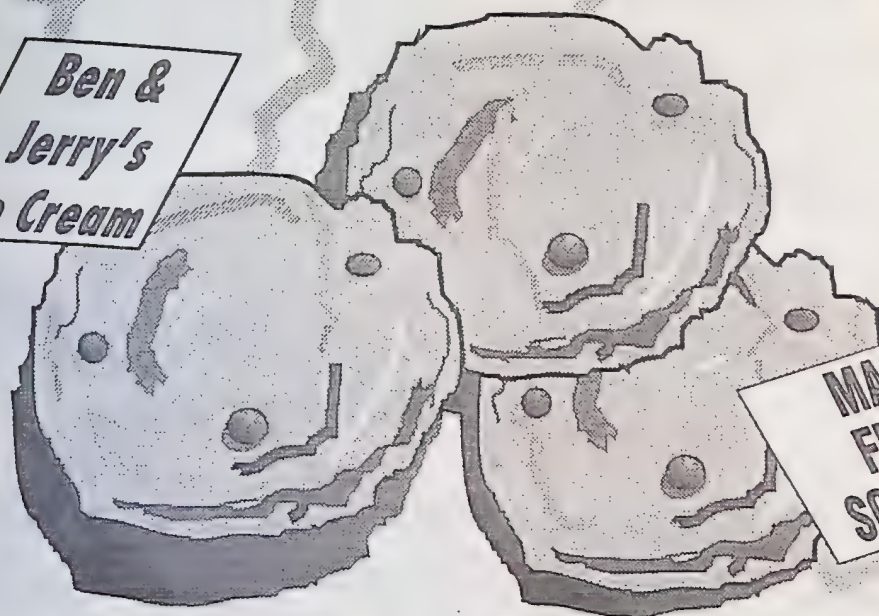


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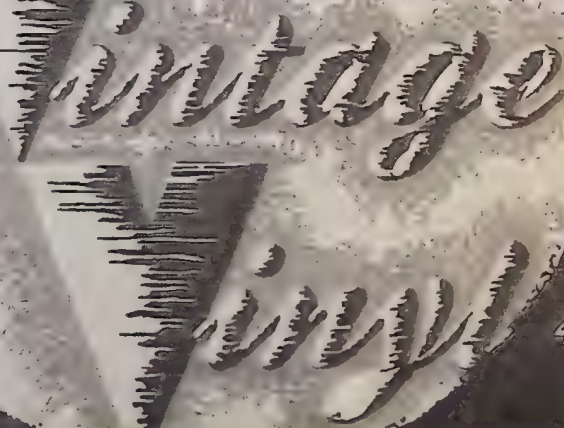
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**For info call:  
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 Wethersfield Public Library



# THE FAR SIDE

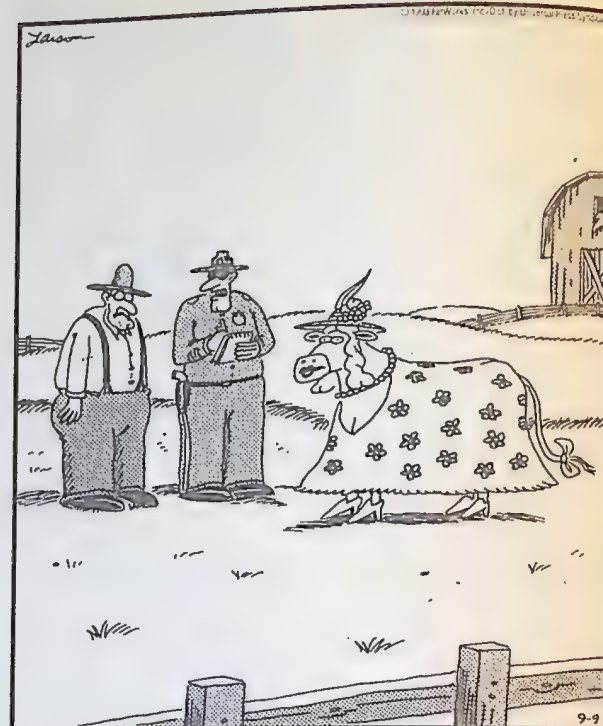
BY GARY LARSON



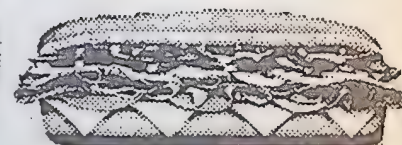
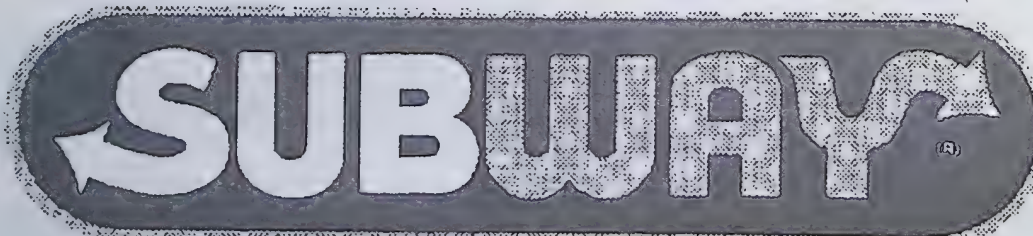
Ironically, Barnum's and Bailey's respective kids—Sid and Marty—both ran away one night to join corporate America.



Back home in his native India, Toomba tells and retells the story of his daring escape from the Cleveland Zoo.



"You were hit last night by some cult, Mr. Gilbert. ... Not the sickest cult I've ever seen, but a cult nonetheless."



4 MAIN STREET • AMHERST • 256-1919

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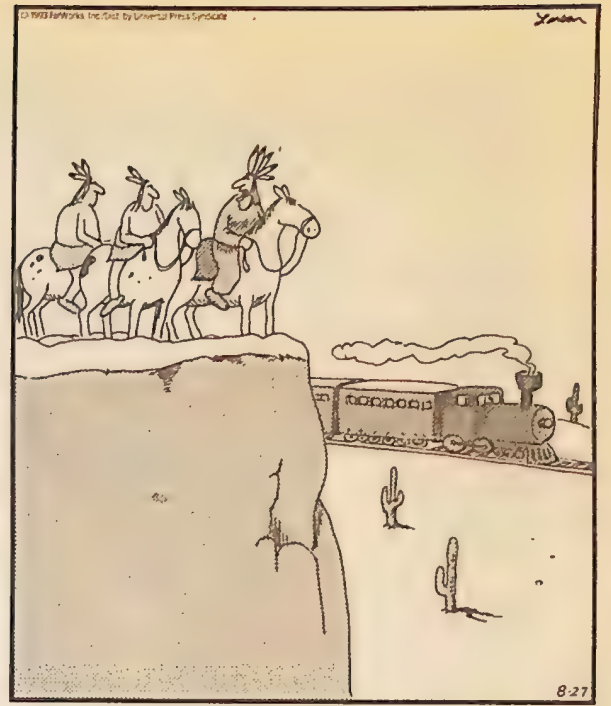




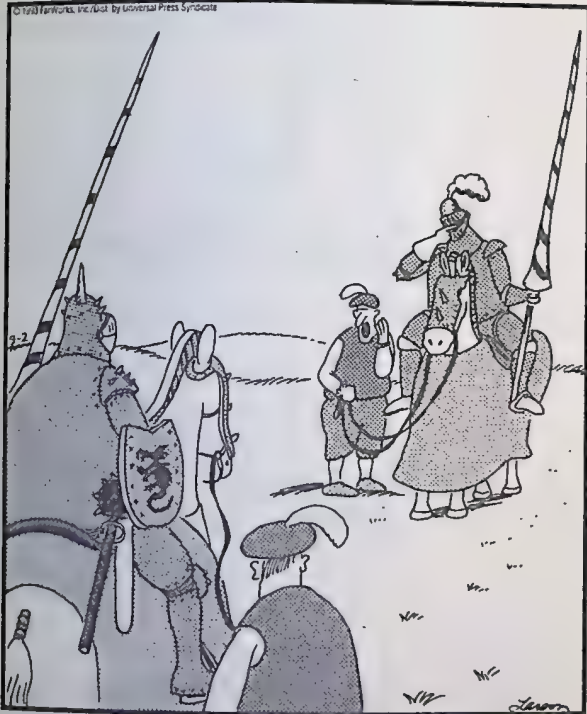
"Excuse me, but may I assume you're not Dr. Livingstone?"



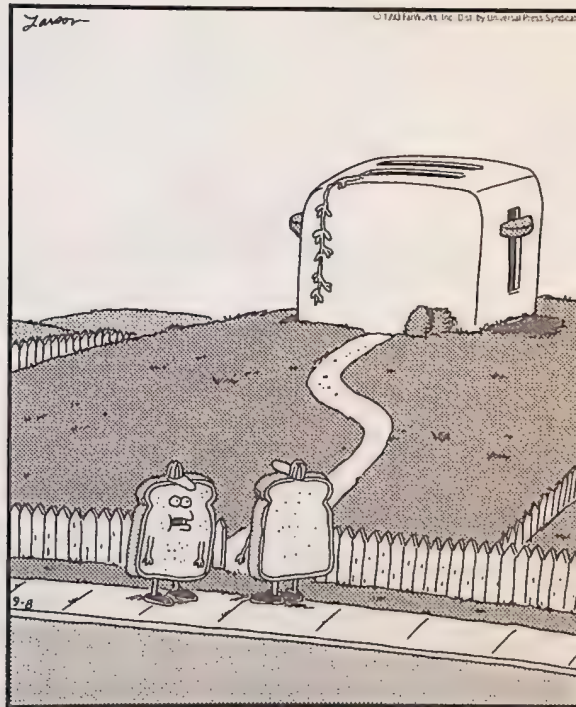
At the Insurance Agents Wax Museum



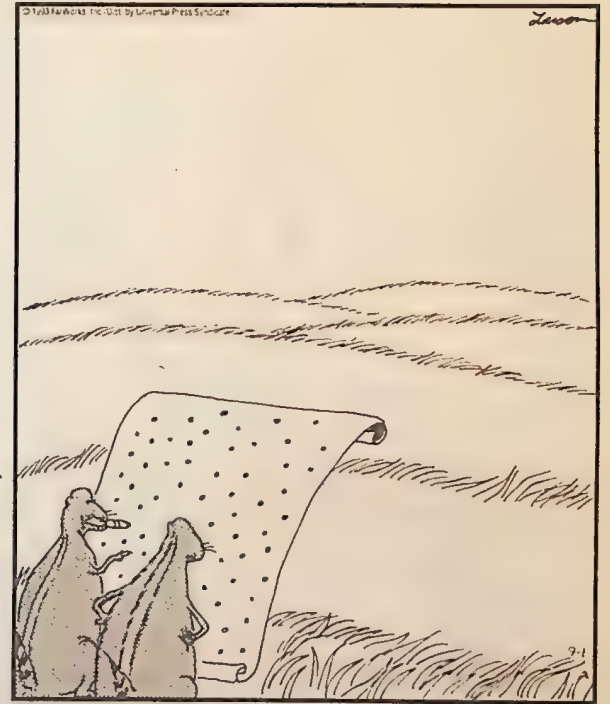
"Pardon me, boys—is that the Chattanooga Iron Horse?"



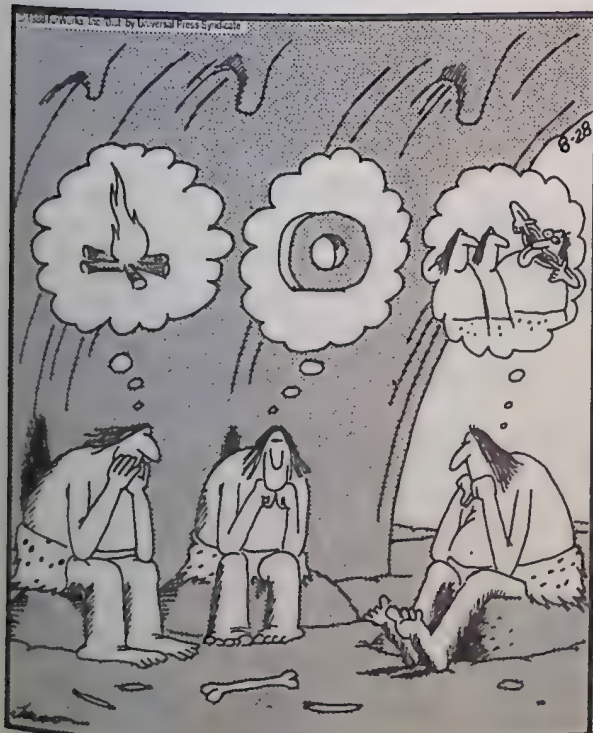
"Time out, please! ... Eyelash!"



"I dunno, Andy. ... Mom said we were never to go near the old Sutter place."



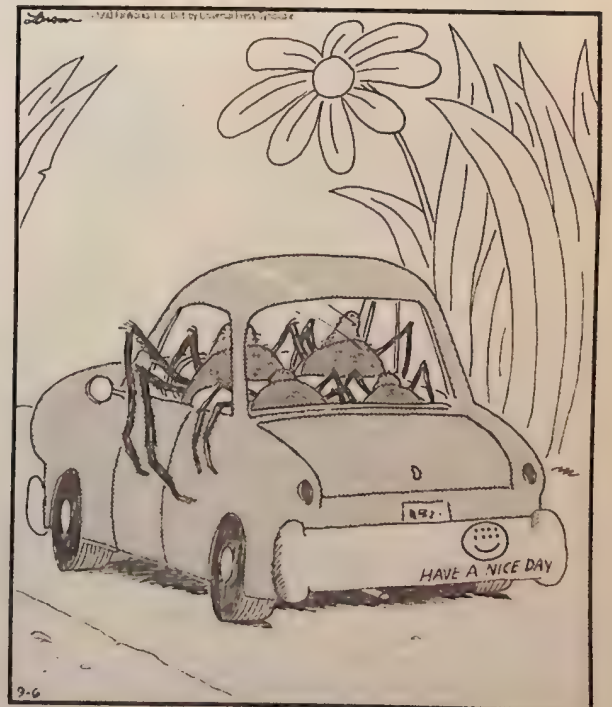
Prairie dog developers



Primitive think tanks



"Say, Will — why don't you pull that thing out and play us a tune?"





# Leold

by Roger & Salem Salloom

Leold's first  
Homemade Card

Dear Kim,

Life is good.  
The sky is blue.  
I'm only unhappy,  
When I'm with you.

Love occasionally,  
Leold

# calvin and Hobbes

by BILL WATTERSON

NOTHING FOR ME...  
NOTHING FOR ME...

PHOOEY.

THE MAIL'S HERE.

YESTERDAY: DAD TOLD ME NOT TO EAT A PEPPER BECAUSE IT WAS HOT, ... SO I ATE THE WHOLE THING IN TWO BITES.

MAN, WAS I EVER IN AGONY! I WAS RICOCHETING OFF THE WALLS ALL NIGHT! I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO EXPLODE!

I GOTTA GET A STUNT DOUBLE.

IF I COULD JUST LEARN TO RIDE THAT BICYCLE, I COULD GO ALL SORTS OF PLACES.

I COULD COVER MILES IN NO TIME AT ALL! I COULD GO ANYWHERE! I COULD...

AAAAAAAAA

I COULD GO TO HEAVEN.

YOU? I DOUBT IT.

OK BIKE, LISTEN UP! I DON'T LIKE YOU AND YOU DON'T LIKE ME.

BUT I'VE GOT THE TOOLS TO REDUCE YOU TO A PILE OF PIPES, SPROCKETS, AND BALL BEARINGS! DO WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER?

AAAAAAAAA

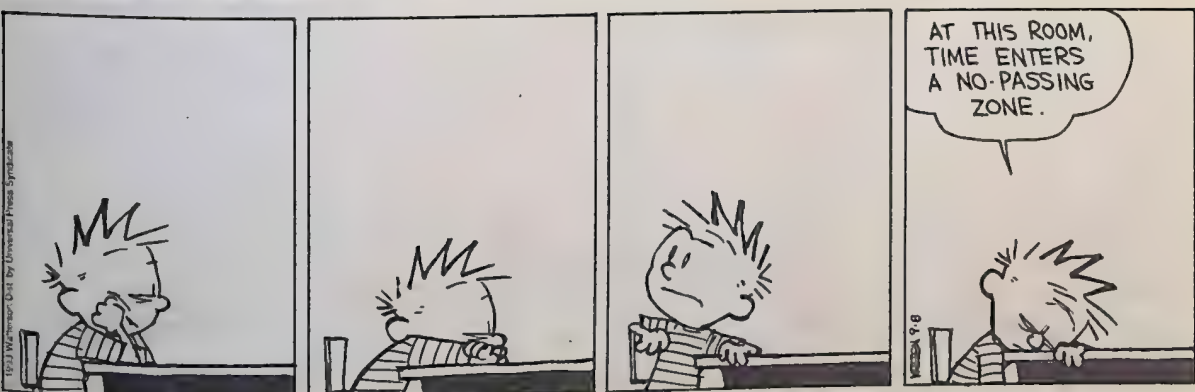
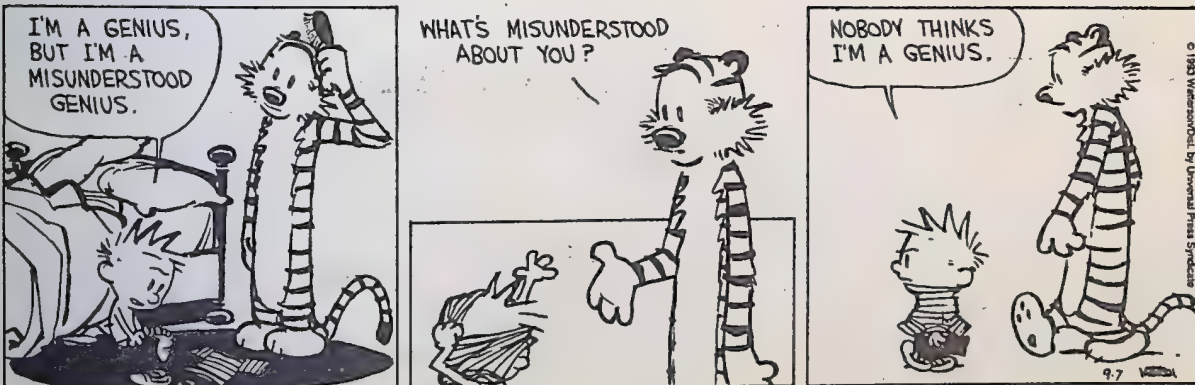
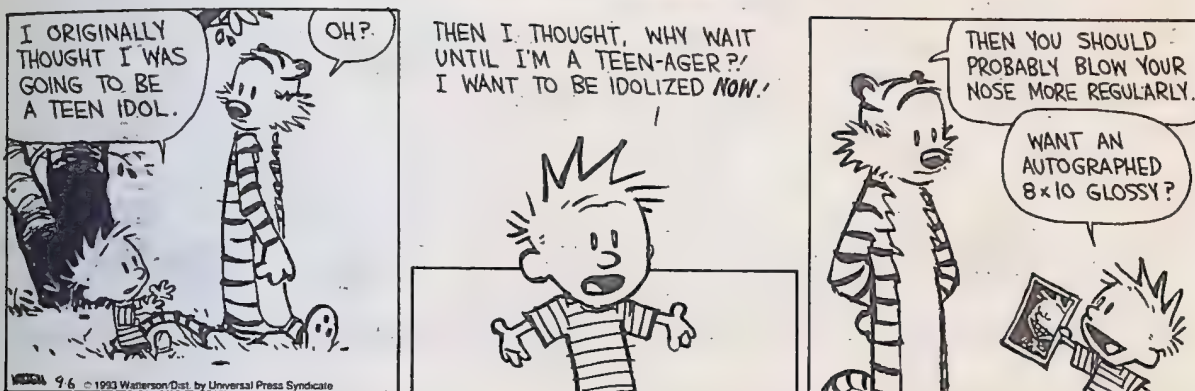
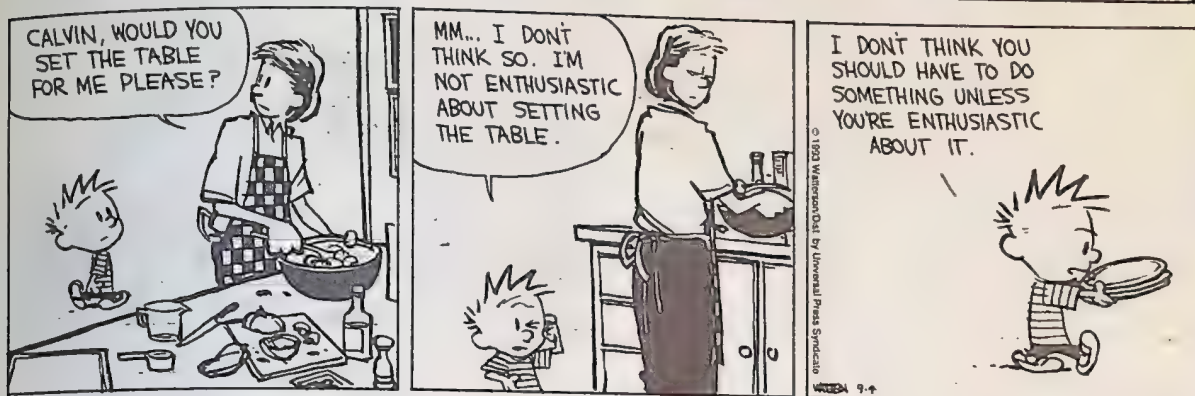
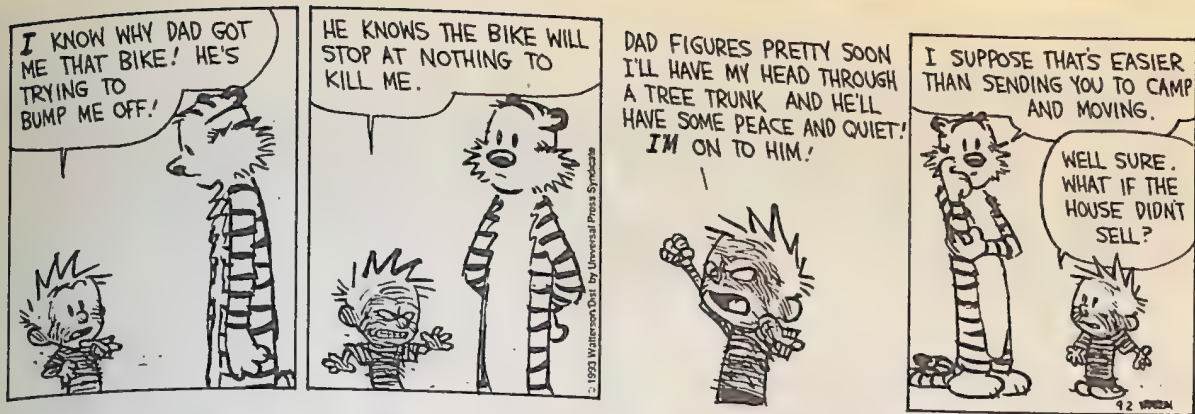
MAYBE ALTOGETHER TOO WELL.

DAD, WILL YOU PUT A BELL ON MY BIKE?

I THINK YOU SHOULD LEARN HOW TO RIDE BEFORE YOU WORRY ABOUT HAVING A BELL TO RING.

NOT THAT KIND OF BELL! I WANT ONE THAT'LL WARN ME WHEN THE DARN BIKE'S SNEAKING UP ON ME!





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POSTERS!

T-SHIRTS!

...AND A BUNCH MORE GOOD STUFF...

THE MERCANTILE

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MC-VISA



# humor me

by Izzy Gesell

Summer93 woke up feeling something was amiss. Spring93 had just left; there was a strong smell of showers and flowers in the air, mingled with the musky scent of a planet recently in lust. For a moment, Summer thought he'd overslept; that it was already early July and millions of people, animals, and plants were wondering what the hell happened to him? Did he get into an accident or something? A panicky glance at the calendar erased his fear. July 20; he was right on time, even a bit early.

What was it then, that woke him up? What was causing the tightness in his equinoctial gut? Probably that recurring bad dream he'd been having. The one where the new management team takes over the seasons business, brings in those bozos from The Greenhouse Effect to manage the enterprise, and force Summer to work year round because most of the money comes in on his watch. Fall, Winter, and Spring, dressed in their bathing suits, taunt Summer from their beach chairs. He starts to chase them. Just as he is about to catch them, he wakes up in a warm sweat screaming, "I need some time off. I can't work all the time! I am not a machine. I AM a work of Nature!"

Getting out of bed to go to the bathroom, he heard a gurgling noise, which he realized was coming from the basement. Yikes! Someone had forgotten to turn the Middle America faucet off, and the Mississippi River had overflowed. What a way to start a season. You never catch up when you start behind. He hadn't even had a chance to drink his coffee, and Old Man River was just rolling along.

Down in the cellar, debris of all kinds bobbed in the chest-deep water like toys in the Jolly Green Giant's bathtub. The water was a darker color than he remembered. Sure, the Mississippi was muddy, but it usually wasn't red...Jumpin' Jehosaphat! Was that Bosnia thing still going on? Summer93 looked at the Miller Lite Armed Conflict Scoreboard hanging behind the by now very wet, wet-bar. Over 40 wars were going on. "There's nothing I can do about it by myself," he sighed. "Might as well go have breakfast."

His morning meal was usually the lightest and healthiest of the day. Juice, decaf coffee, and cereal were topped with lots of luscious fresh fruit. With all the barbecues scheduled over the next three months, he really had to watch what he ate. He'd sworn off caffeine after '68. All those assassinations and riots may not have been due to his jumpiness, but it's better to be safe than sorry. Pre-occupied, he picked up the container of skim-milk. Instead of a picture of a missing child, there was one of a space ship. Seems the young interplanetary probe was supposed to call home and didn't.

Sighing, he suddenly realized how lonely he was; how much he missed having a steady relationship. There was that wonderful weather pattern he'd recently met at a Nature's Network singles dance, but he was wary of getting involved again. His last relationship, with the Tropic of Cancer, had soured when she claimed he was "too moody." Sure, it was hard to live with someone whose emotional gamut ranged from booming thunderstorms to stifling heat, often in the same day. Yet, it was this changeability that attracted her in the first place. He decided to call Heidi. Sweet, professional, discreet Heidi. There was always satisfaction to be had there. And you never knew whom you might bump into in the elevator. No one answered the phone, so he left a message.

The phone rang just as he hung up. It was President Clinton's people wanting the weather forecast for the Vineyard in August. Summer93 promised good weather, reserving the right to make retroactive changes if the meteorological special interests pushed too hard.

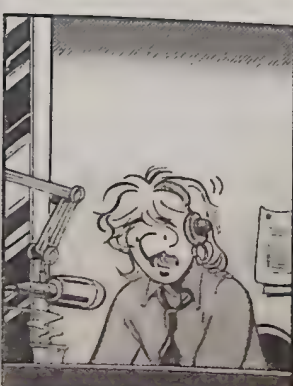
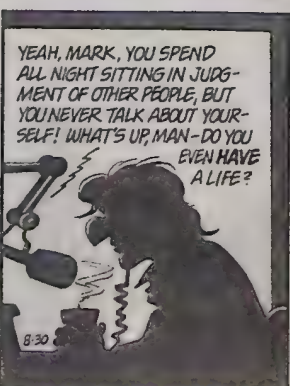
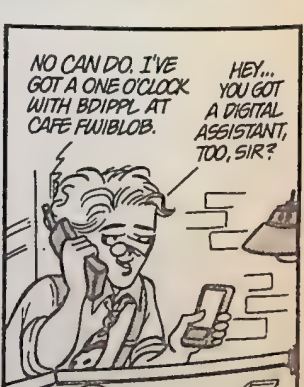
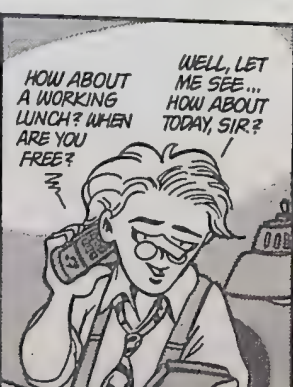
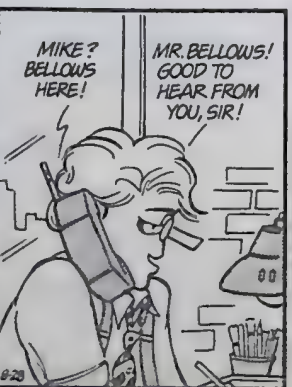
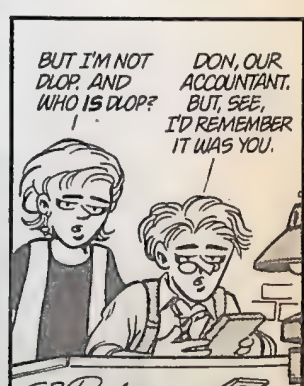
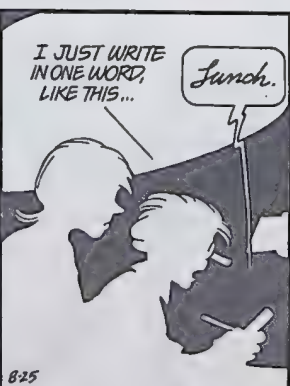
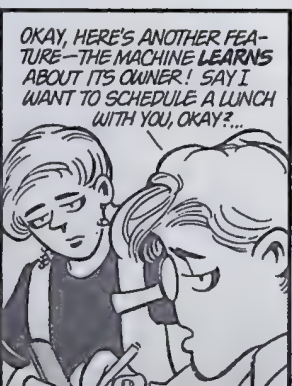
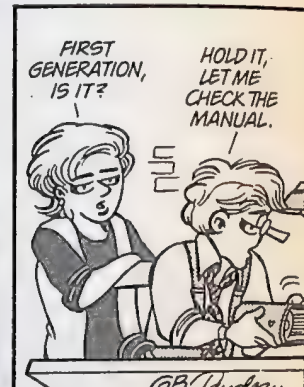
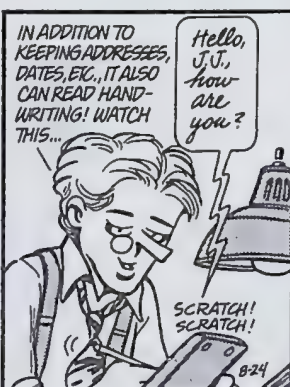
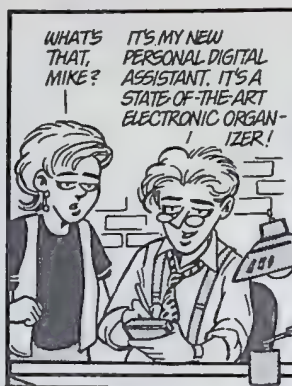
A dove flew by his window, something he hadn't seen in a long while. The frail bird was headed toward the Middle East. "Good luck, little fella. Don't forget your bulletproof vest," Summer thought. It was September and time to start packing for the trip to the Southern Hemisphere. He picked up the evaluations that were starting to come in. These written surveys were relatively new, part of the Total Quality Management policy the consultants recommended. Some thought he had been too hot, a few too cold. There had been too much rain for some, not enough for others. Red Sox fans complained about having their hopes raised another time; Mets fans complained about no hope at all. In one, he was described as "a season with a bad hair day."

Summer glanced at the button pinned inside his shirt. This is what kept him going when the doubts about himself and his usefulness showed themselves. He bought it when the world was young and people were just beginning to try to make sense of their existence. "I CAN'T PLEASE EVERYONE," it read.

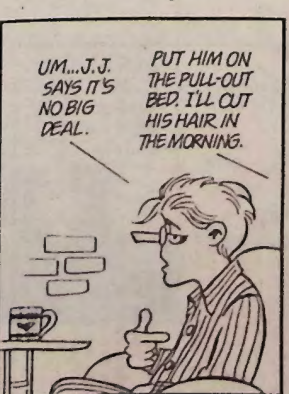
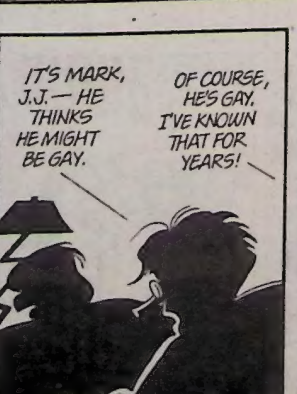
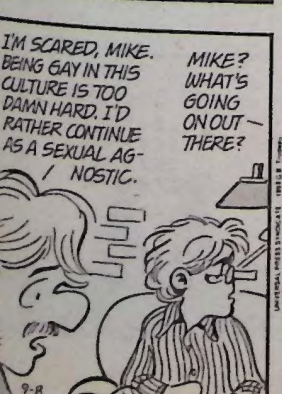
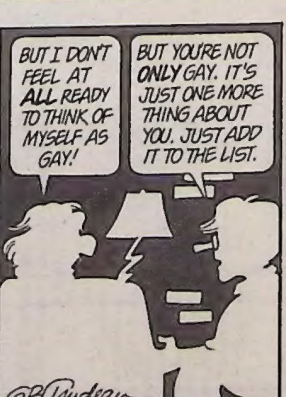
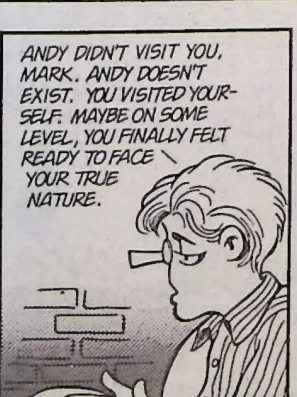
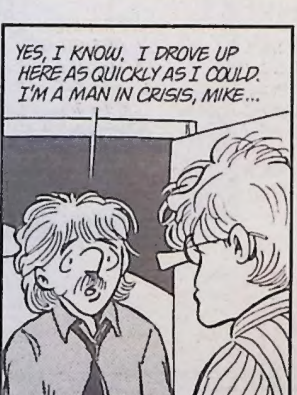
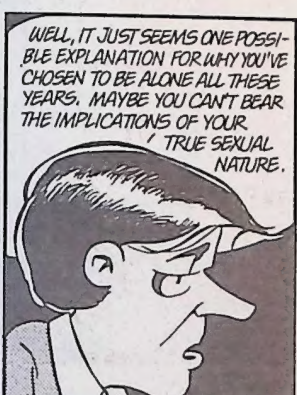
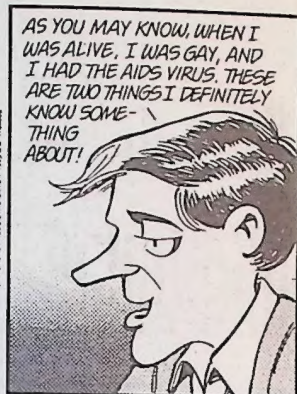
The fading season realized it was time to take the Dog Days for a walk.

# Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU







# KARAVAN IMPORTS



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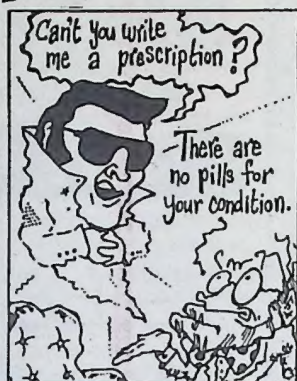
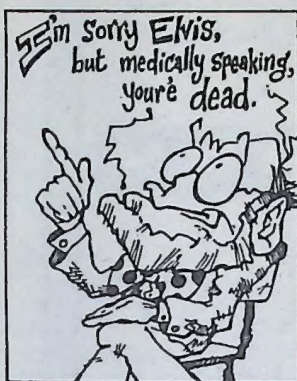
We have stuff  
from all over!  
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NORTHAMPTON, MA 01060  
413 -585 -0815



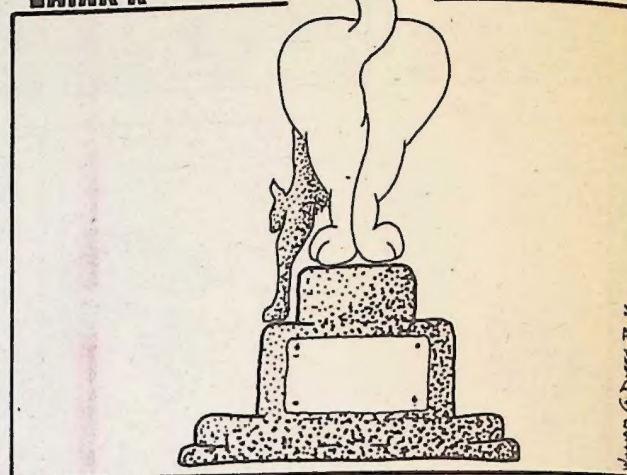
# LOCAL HEROES

## Star Shrinker

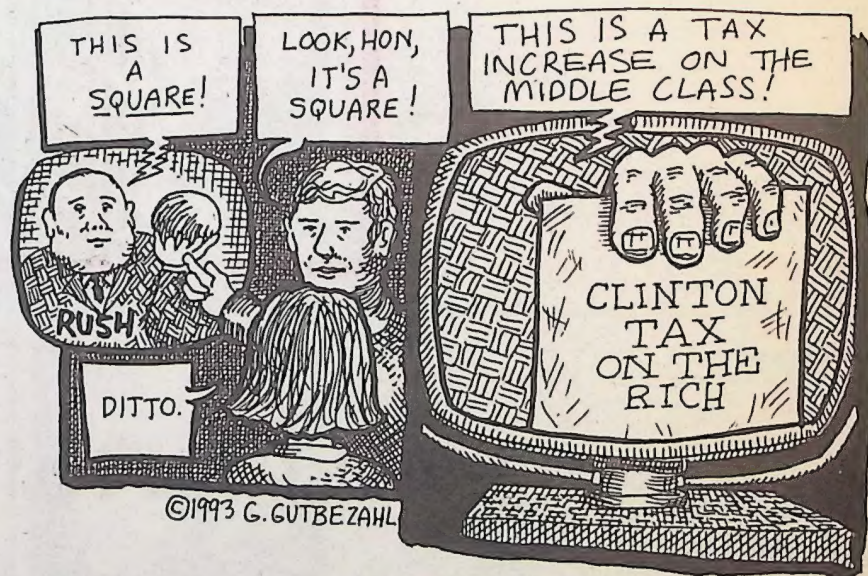


by Dr. ROWDY illus. K. SEIDEL.

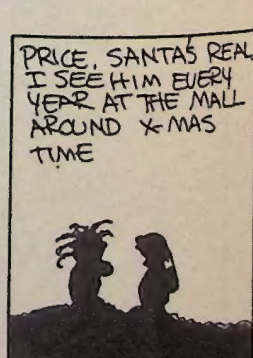
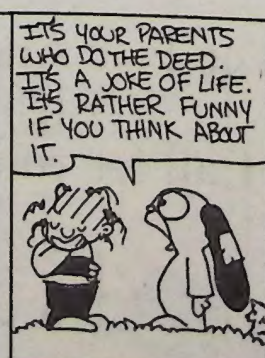
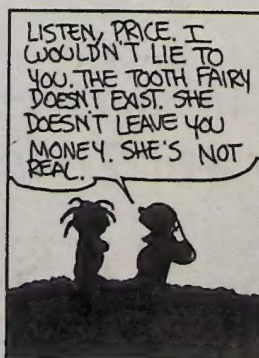
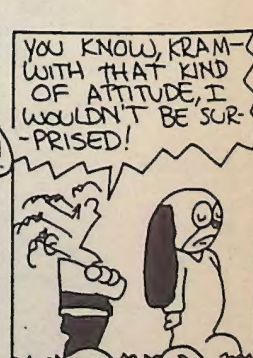
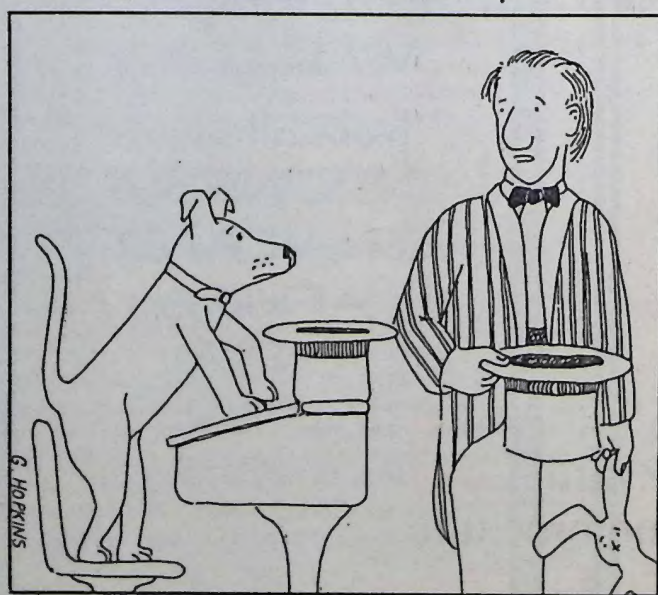
## THINK'R



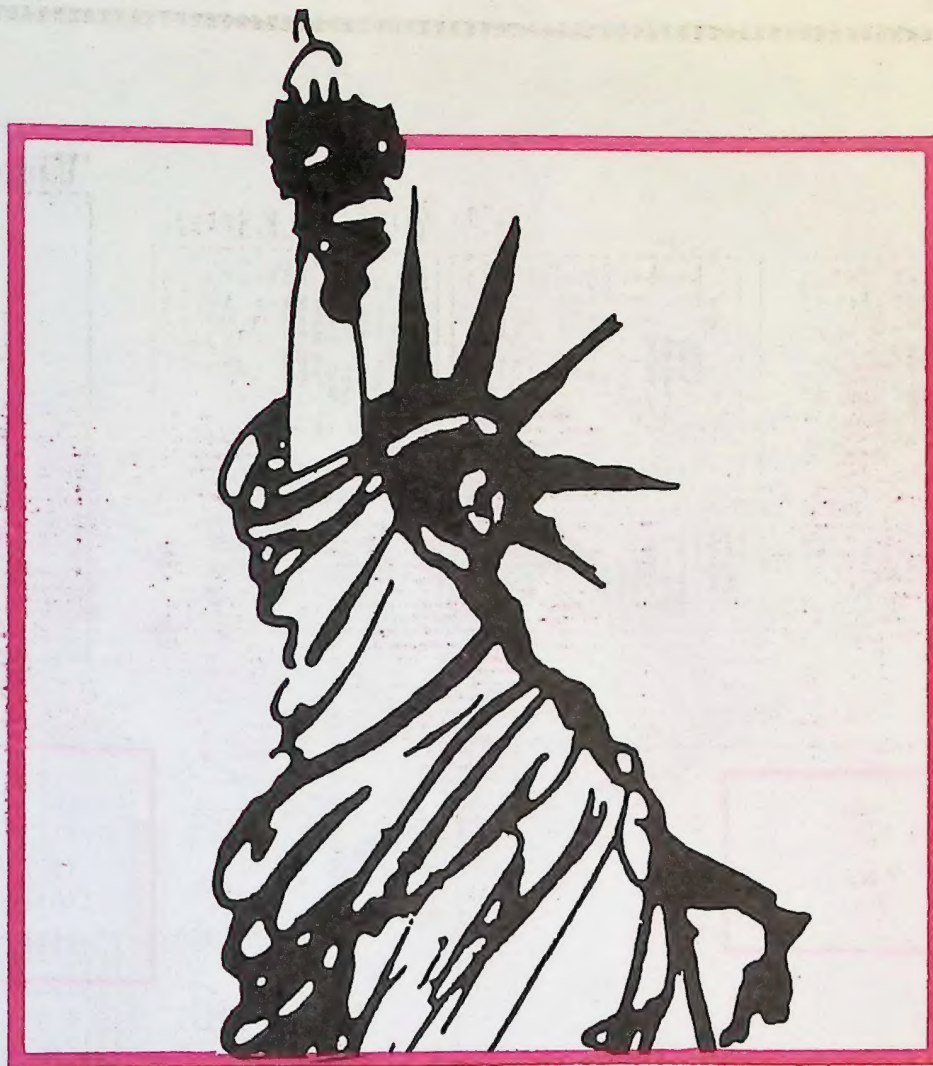
CATASTROPHE



## dog feathers by Giles Hopkins







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# BICYCLE WORLD TOO

63 Pleasant St. (rear)  
Behind Bonducci's  
Amherst • 253-7722

104 Federal St.  
Greenfield  
774-3701

## CONTEST

MATCH THE QUOTE  
TO THE CORRECT PEOPLE

Fill out this page, tear it out  
& mail or bring to:  
Bicycle World Too,  
63 S. Pleasant (rear),  
behind Bonducci's, Amherst

1. "Just gimme a crate full of tea, the wide open sea and thou."

2. "Even if I couldn't hypnotize royal families into carrying me around on their shoulders, running at a fast clip... I would still get the most kicks riding fast on a bicycle."

3. "Hell. The sound of the riders at night clamoring through some filthy back alley of Paris, it's enough to make me want to write more long-winded novels about sweat and tight spaces."

4. "If I wasn't pounding nails into these roofs all day...I'd be riding my bike on the farm."

5. "Damaging my million dollar bod is the only thing that keeps me off of one...that and all my checks go to the Church of Scientology."

6. "You know how to ride, don't you? Just put both feet on the pedals...and push."

7. "When I finally leave this house...I'm gonna ride out, down the front steps on a big black mountain bike with shocks. I'm Nobody and I don't care who you are!"

8. "I have two guns mounted on each of the handlebars...anyone tries to stop me from taking my 9 o'clock ride around the city...they're gonna be spillin' red all over the pavement."

A. Rasputin-  
the Black Monk

B. Sam Adams

C. Lauren Bacall

D. Emily Dickinson

E. Henry Miller

F. Jimmy Carter

G. Janet Reno

H. Tom Cruise

# WIN:

### 1st PRIZE

NiteSun Lighting System  
value \$220.

### 2nd PRIZE

Specialized 5.0 Headlight  
value \$49.95

### 3rd PRIZE

Cateye Halogen headlight  
value \$19.95